

Date 7/7/86

Title and Character of Case

Richard Ramirez, aka Night Stalker etc.

[Redacted] - Victim;

LASD, Pico Rivera, California

OO:LA

b6
b7C

Date Property Acquired

Source From Which Property Acquired

LA-FBI - LASD

Location of Property or Bulky Exhibit

Reason for Retention of Property and Efforts Made to Dispose of Same

Investigative Supportive Data

To Be Returned

See Serial

Agent Submitting Property or Exhibit

Agent Assigned Case

☐ Yes ☒ No

☐ Yes

☒ No

Grand Jury Material - Disseminate Only Pursuant to Rule 6(e), Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure.

b6
b7C

Description of Property or Exhibit

Investigative data

For Valuable and/or Narcotics Evidence Only

Evidence Bag Seal # _____

Signature of Two
Special Agents
Verifying and Sealing
Bag Contents

SEMIANNUAL INVENTORY CERTIFICATION TO JUSTIFY RETENTION OF PROPERTY (Initial and Date)

Field File # _____

OO: _____

EVIDENCE (PACKAGE COPY)

BLOCK STAMP

QT 252-39

2 of 3

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Night Stalker phone calls flood police

By John Fleck
and Milton McGriff
Herald staff writers

Harried law enforcement officials all over California are being deluged with telephone calls from people who think they've seen the Night Stalker or know how to catch him.

The Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department is getting as many as 200 to 300 calls a day on the serial killer, a spokesman said.

"We're considering every bit of information given to us," said sheriff's Deputy Joe Garza. A Los Angeles Police Department spokesman said they are "recording, analyzing and assigning priorities" to tips they get.

Meanwhile, patterns have begun to emerge in the way the Stalker chooses his victims. In most of the 34 cases on record, attacks were made on yellow or beige-painted houses fairly close to freeways.

And detectives are looking closely at several cases involving attacks on children, including the March 20 rape of an 8-year-old girl who was abducted from her bed in Glassell Park.

In an attack on a Mission Viejo couple Sunday morning, a man police believe is the Night Stalker shot a computer worker three times in the head and raped his fiancée.

William Carns, 29, remained in critical condition at Mission Community Hospital, a hospital spokeswoman said. His fiancée, who was not identified, was treated at Saddleback Hospital and released, authorities said.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

A-1 HERALD EXAMINER
LOS ANGELES, CA

Date: 8/27/85

Edition: Tuesday

Title: NIGHT STALKER PHONE CALLS
FLOOD POLICE

Character:

or

Classification:

Submitting Office: Los Angeles

Indexing:

252B-1

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
AUG 27 1985	
FBI - LOS ANGELES	

b6
b7C

The thin, bug-eyed, gap-toothed killer has been connected with at least 14 murders, most of them in the Los Angeles area, but at least one in San Francisco.

The killer has been dubbed the Night Stalker because he enters darkened homes in the early morning hours, usually through an unlocked door or window. He has frequently attacked couples.

He is believed to have very poor

teeth, with gaps and discolorations in front and many of his molars missing.

Police and sheriff's deputies, struggling to cope with a flood of anxious calls and tips, say they are checking out each lead, no matter how bizarre.

"Checking out a tip could take 'one second, it could take a little longer," said LAPD Cmdr. William Booth. "We take all information."

San Francisco police said they received about 500 calls over the past weekend. On Friday, after a story appeared about the Night Stalker appeared on national television, "over 100 calls" were received, a spokeswoman said.

"I just had a lady call me who said she hasn't slept for two weeks," said Glendale Police Sgt. Steve Campbell. "People are really paranoid. A lot of people are asking for security checks, they are buying locks and high-intensity lights and they want to know where to buy a gun."

Police have been wary of releasing the evidence that they say ties together all the Night Stalker cases. Ballistics tests are believed to show the same gun was used in several shootings, and there have been reports of messages scrawled on victims' walls.

Other patterns are beginning to emerge.

With few exceptions, the victims have lived in one-story homes. The neighborhoods are all middle-class. The homes, with few exceptions, are all painted yellow or beige. And all have been close to a freeway.

Dayle Okazaki, the Night Stalker's first murder victim, lived less than a quarter-mile from the Pomona Freeway. Maxson and Lela Kneiding, shot to death in their Glendale home, lived virtually in the shadow of the Glendale Freeway.

But there are exceptions to the pattern. Peter Pan, the Stalker's San Francisco victim, lived in a two-story home in an upper-middle class neighborhood, far from the nearest freeway.

Okazaki, the first victim, lived in a first-floor condominium. On March 17, the night Okazaki was killed, the Stalker also pulled Tsallian Yu from her car in front of her condominium and shot her.

But the rest of the slayings have come under the cover of darkness in quiet, suburban, single-family home neighborhoods, with well-kept lawns and modest gardens, and all within a few miles of a freeway onramp.

Dr. Alfred Coodley, clinic professor emeritus of psychiatry at County-USC Medical Center, said yesterday that the beige or yellow colors of the houses may be a significant clue.

"It reinforces my belief that he

remembers a yellow house in his youth that left a permanent rage on his mind," he told the Associated Press. He said the killer may be lashing out because of childhood abuses that took place in such a house.

Authorities have said the FBI is preparing a psychological profile of the killer, but it will remain confidential.

Detectives are also looking for a link between the Night Stalker and several attacks on children, including the rape of an 8-year-old Glassell Park girl abducted from her bed while her parents slept.

"We are investigating it carefully and are continuing to do so to see if there is a connection," said Booth.

The girl described her attacker as a Caucasian or Hispanic man, about 5 feet 10 inches tall and weighing about 160-170 pounds. She said he was about 30 years old, with dirty blond or brown hair.

Police said he entered the home through an open window, took the girl away in a car, molested her and left her on Verdugo Road in Glendale, about five blocks from converging freeways.

In late March, detectives from three police agencies linked that abduction and rape with similar crimes in Montebello in February and in Monterey Park in March.

A police artist made a composite drawing that is roughly similar to

the later, more complete drawing of the Night Stalker.

Herald staff writer Timothy Carlson contributed to this story.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

A-1 HERALD EXAMINER
LOS ANGELES, CA
8/26/85
Monday

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Stalker hits

Orange

County

Couple attacked in Mission Viejo

By Ruben Castaneda
and John Crust
Herald staff writers

Five hundred miles from his last known victim, the killer called the Night Stalker struck again early yesterday, attacking a young Orange County couple as they slept.

Slipping into a darkened house in Mission Viejo, the man fired three bullets into the head of 29-year-old William Carns, then raped, gagged and tied up his fiancée, authorities said.

Both survived the early morning attack, which was the third this month attributed to the Night Stalker and strikingly similar to the killer's known pattern.

As before, the attack took place in the pre-dawn hours in a quiet suburban neighborhood. Entry may have been through an unlocked window, one of the killer's preferred methods.

"Due to evidence found at the scene, we do believe it to be the Night Stalker," said Lt. Richard Olson of the Orange County Sheriff's Department.

STALKER HITS ORANGE COUNTY

or
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FBI - LOS ANGELES	

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The Night Stalker — described as white, possibly Hispanic, age 25 to 30, about 6 feet tall with dark, curly hair and gapped, very discolored teeth — is believed responsible for 34 brutal attacks on men, women and children, 14 of which have ended in death.

Carns was reported in critical condition last night at Mission Community Hospital. His fiancée was treated at Saddleback Hospital and released, authorities said.

An elderly neighbor said she heard a woman's screams in the

early morning. "She was hollering hysterically," said Elsa Sorrell, 80. Another neighbor said his dog "went bananas."

Orange County deputies would not describe the evidence found inside Carns' house. But Olson said it was confirmed as a link to the Night Stalker by members of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department task force tracking the killer.

The Night Stalker's attacks have occurred in usually quiet residential areas. Many have been assaults on couples in which the Stalker quickly attacks the male, often killing him, before sexually assaulting the female.

Carns' home was ransacked, Olson said, but what, if anything, was taken had not been determined.

Ironically, an Orange County Deputy Sheriff lives just three houses away, neighbors said.

"This doesn't make any sense. Of course, none of it does," said Diane Cox, who lives directly across the street from Carns' home. "Last night we had the windows and screens open because of the heat. I doubt they'll be open tomorrow."

Neighbors said a badly mangled

window screen could be seen on the ground below an opened rear window in Carns' home. They said the window had been open all night, probably because of the heat.

Jeff Karp, a college student who lives next door, said he heard his dog barking about 2 a.m. yesterday, but didn't get up to investigate until he heard sirens blaring about an hour later.

Olson said the attack occurred sometime after 2 a.m.

"The female victim called us about 2:40 a.m. She told us she had been awakened by gunshots," Olson said. "When she woke up, she saw the male intruder, who sexually assaulted her and tied her up."

The woman managed to untie herself and call for help on the emergency 911 line, Olson said. The woman gave a description of her attacker, Olson said, but he would not give details.

"It took her an hour to free herself," said Sorrell, who said the woman ran across the street to another male neighbor for help. He declined to be interviewed.

Because she was the victim of a sexual assault, authorities would not identify the woman. A volunteer at the hospital at which she was treated said the woman was

staying with friends.

According to neighbors, Carns and his fiancée had moved into the light-brown ranch-style house in the 24000 block of Chrisanta Drive about eight months ago, coming from Fargo, N.D.

Jim Brafford, a neighbor and fellow worker, said Carns worked in computers at the Burroughs Corp.

"He is just a heck of a nice guy," said Brafford.

Orange County detectives were conferring yesterday with investigators from the Los Angeles area task force. Sheriff's Sgt. Frank Salerno, who is heading the search, was among detectives at the scene.

The assault was the first by the Night Stalker in Orange County. The previous attacks linked to the killer had been in Los Angeles County and San Francisco.

The first attack linked to the Night Stalker occurred March 17, when Dayle Okazaki, a Rosemead woman, was shot and killed in her condominium.

The most recent was Aug. 17 in San Francisco, in which businessman Peter H. Pan, 66, was shot to death inside his Eucalyptus Street home. He had been shot in the head. Pan's wife, Barbara, was also shot in the head but survived.

On Aug. 8, Elyas Abowath, an emigre from India, was fatally shot in the head in his home in Diamond Bar. His wife was beaten by the attacker.

Neighbors in the quiet, tree-lined Mission Viejo neighborhood yesterday were shocked at the assault.

"He didn't just rape that woman," said Katrina Belcher, 27. "He raped all of us. He raped this town."

Rose Caldwell, 75, who lives four houses down from Carns, said her husband, Floyd, thought he caught a glimpse of someone looking into their den window around midnight Friday.

"He said he thought he scared him away," she said.

Coincidentally, Floyd Caldwell, who was 76, died of a heart attack about 3 a.m. yesterday, shortly after the Carns attack. Mrs. Caldwell said she didn't think it had anything to do with his death.

"I have a hunch the guy was in our back yard," said another neighbor, Charles Prather, 51. At about midnight, he said, his dog "really went bananas." Prather said the intruder could have walked along a cement wall that backs his property to get to the Carns home.

The deputy sheriff who lives

Night Stalker strikes again

Attack on couple



The latest attack by the Night Stalker was in a residential area of Orange County.

nearby declined to give his name. Neighbors said his patrol car, which is often parked outside his home, was absent yesterday morning.

"It freaks you out," said Alice Yoo, 17. "We figure we have a sheriff's deputy living across the street — nothing can happen here."

Residents said they were used to sleeping with windows open at night, but not anymore.

"We're locking up tonight," said Leslie Humphrey, 18. "I'd rather be hot than dead."

Herald staff writer James Jones contributed this story.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

A-9 HERALD EXAMINER
LOS ANGELES, CADate: 8/26/85
Edition: MondayPOLICE MUM ON SERIAL
KILLER; HAHN PROTESTS

Police mum on serial killer; Hahn protests

By Nancy Hill-Holtzman
Herald staff writer

Fearful of giving away evidence that could ruin their case, police agencies have clamped a lid on information about the Night Stalker, the serial killer who has attacked 34 people and killed 14 in the last six months.

Detectives know the alias the killer is using, the make and color of the car he is driving, the way he kills his victims and the words he writes on walls when he's done.

Los Angeles County Supervisor Kenneth Hahn said yesterday that the public — which may encounter the killer unknowingly, even rent him a room or sell him a tank of gas — should be told more about the Night Stalker.

But Sheriff Sherman Block says the public already knows too much. The sheriff has become increasingly agitated about the amount of information reaching the public. In a news conference last week, he scolded newspapers and broadcasters for revealing details of the suspect's dental history.

Such leaks "significantly jeopardized the investigation that is under way," Block said. "It places this community in jeopardy because it impedes our ability to go forward with the investigation."

Authorities fear the Night Stalker may be reading his press notices and alter his distinctive style to elude capture.

They don't want the guy to change or differentiate what he's doing," explained Sheriff's deputy Sam Jones.

Consequently, detectives working the case refer all press inquiries to the Sheriff's Information Bureau, whose spokesmen are instructed to read only bland press releases stripped of any useful detail.

Routinely, the releases say "evidence was recovered." They seldom say what the evidence is.

Hahn suggested yesterday that the public might be better able to protect themselves if the police allowed them to know more.

"We're living in a city of fear," Hahn said. "I'm a great believer in giving out the widest information and the known habits of the suspect so they can make virtually everybody an auxiliary law enforcement officer."

"Someone at a midnight mission or serving him a cup of coffee" might lead police to the Night Stalker, said Hahn. "He might be spotted by an ordinary person."

The Herald requested an interview with Block on the issue of information yesterday, but a spokesman said he did not want to talk about it.

Three days ago, Block obliquely criticized San Francisco Mayor Feinstein for announcing that ballistics tests linked the San Francisco shootings to some of the Southern California attacks.

Feinstein confirmed the results of the tests Friday as she announced she was adding \$10,000 to a reward for information leading to the capture and conviction of the Stalker. The reward stands at \$35,010.

But the information didn't come exclusively from Feinstein. San

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or
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252B-1 -

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FBI — LOS ANGELES

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San Francisco police earlier had revealed information about the gun to several Bay Area reporters.

Block confirmed that the Southern California task force on the Stalker, headed by his department, has sent copies of what they believe to be the killer's dental records to more than 3,000 dentists in the Los Angeles area.

He said the records were obtained from a dentist whose business card was found in a car believed stolen by the Stalker. The dentist said he had treated a man matching the description, but that he paid cash and gave a phony name and address, the sheriff said.

Block said the revelation that authorities were seeking information from dentists was the most damaging leak so far.

"That really killed us," he said.

Police have also been tight-lipped about the exact nature of the unnamed "physical evidence" that links the various crimes attributed to the Night Stalker. News reports have talked of messages scrawled on the walls of victims' homes, but no one will confirm that.

The investigators are trying to keep that information confidential," said Sgt. Eugene O'Connor of the San Gabriel police, whose officers have been working overtime for a month on the case.

"They know what they are doing so there must be some clues that definitely show one is related to the other."

In explaining the secrecy, O'Connor cited the case of the Tate-LaBianca murders, instigated by Charles Manson in 1969, in which the words "Helter Skelter" were written at both crime scenes.

"That evidence wasn't released until the trial," said O'Connor. "If you release that kind of thing then you get every crackpot in the country doing the same thing."

Los Angeles County sheriff's deputy Bob Stoneman yesterday again declined to elaborate on what evidence links the crimes. Stoneman said investigators are worried the killer may change his methods because of the details that have already been released. That would set police back to square one in the case, he said.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Valley Intruder Assaults Two in Orange County

By BILL BILLITER
and MARK LANDSBAUM,
Times Staff Writers

A serial killer linked to 14 slayings in California struck in Mission Viejo early Sunday, shooting a sleeping man in the head and raping his girlfriend, investigators for the Orange and Los Angeles county sheriff's departments said.

The early morning attack, which left the man in critical condition, occurred in the 24400 block of Chrisanta Drive in Mission Viejo. As in most other crimes attributed to the so-called Valley Intruder or Night Stalker, the residence is a single-story home in a peaceful, middle-class suburb close to a freeway.

"Due to evidence found at the scene, we definitely believe this is the Night Stalker," Orange County sheriff's spokesman Lt. Dick Olson said in a statement.

Manages to Escape

Officers said the intruder entered the house as the couple slept. The woman awoke to gunshots, officers said, and then was sexually assaulted. She was tied up but managed to escape and summon police after the assailant left.

Investigators would not release the names of the victims but said both are 29. Neighbors identified the shooting victim as Bill Carnes, who works for a business machine company in southern Orange County.

Carnes was in critical condition late Sunday at Mission Community Hospital after emergency surgery for a gunshot wound, a hospital spokesman said. The woman was taken to Saddleback Community Hospital in Laguna Hills, where she was treated and released.

The assailant has been called the Valley Intruder because most of the crimes attributed to him occurred in the San Gabriel and San Fernando valleys. Law enforce-

Please see **INTRUDER**, Page 3

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 1
LOS ANGELES TIMES

Date: 8-26-85
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or
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252B-1 -

INTRUDER: Serial Killer Assaults

Couple in Orange County

Continued from Page 1

ment officials believe the series began in March and includes 21 assaults. The victims have been shot, stabbed and beaten. Sunday morning's assault was the first in Orange County and only the second outside of the suburban Los Angeles valleys.

The last confirmed attack was Aug. 17 in the Lakeside District of San Francisco, where the assailant fatally shot a man and critically wounded the man's wife. Officers speculated a few days later that the killer might again head back to Southern California.

'Proves He Is Back'

Los Angeles County sheriff's Deputy Sam Jones said Sunday, "This proves he is back in the Southland."

Similarities between the Mission Viejo case and the method of operation in the previous crimes prompted immediate contacts between the Orange County Sheriff's Department and the 50-member Valley Intruder task force set up by the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department. At about 2:30 p.m. Sunday, both departments confirmed the link.

At 2:40 a.m. the Orange County Sheriff's Department received a call on the 911

emergency line from a woman who said her boyfriend had been shot, Olson said. When deputies and paramedics arrived, the woman said she had been "awakened by gunshots in the house this morning, and that when she woke up there was a male intruder in the house, in the room, and that he grabbed her and sexually assaulted her," Olson said.

"He then tied her up. And then he appeared to have gone through the house. He eventually left, and when he left she was able to get loose and call the emergency line."

Olson said the woman was so distraught that she could not give a clear description of her attacker. Olson declined to release any description the woman was able to give.

The Valley Intruder has been described as 6 feet tall, slender, 25 to 30 years old, with curly hair and stained, gapped teeth.

Investigators have said he usually leaves a distinctive, but not publicly disclosed, trademark at the scene of his crimes. He also has twice left a scrawled message—the exact wording has not been disclosed—on walls of victims' homes.

"I'm not aware of anything along those lines," Olson said of the Mission Viejo case.

The Valley Intruder usually enters by forcing a screen on an open window or door. Olson declined to say how the Mission Viejo attacker entered. But a 3-by-4-foot screen, which was bent as if it had been pried off a window, was found on the ground outside the house.

Most of the Valley Intruder's victims

'All of us leave our windows open. Who would think this could happen in this area?'

were living in homes painted in shades of yellow—and the Orange County attack occurred in a yellow house.

The house was cordoned off Sunday as investigators combed it for clues. Two cars parked in the driveway bore North Dakota license plates.

Frightened neighbors along the 24400 block of Chrisanta Drive buzzed with speculation at midday Sunday as they tried

to piece together what had occurred.

Few neighbors had gotten to know Bill Carnes, a former resident of North Dakota who, they said, had bought the home about six months ago. Few of them knew anything about the woman.

However, his next-door neighbor, Jim Brafford, 35, an engineer at Burroughs Corp. in Mission Viejo, worked in the same office as Carnes. "I know Bill, he's a heck of a nice guy," Brafford said, adding that Carnes works in product assurance and support at the computer firm.

Brafford and his wife, Sheila, rent their home and planned to move this Friday to a home they are buying. But after Sunday's attack, "my wife wants to move today," Brafford said. "My wife is beside herself with this thing."

"We were wondering why them and not us," said Brafford, holding his 2½-year-old daughter, Jessica.

Like many neighbors, the Braffords had kept some windows open on the sultry Saturday night.

"I was up until 11 trying to get the air conditioner fixed," Brafford said. "But we didn't hear or see anything until the sheriff's (deputies) came over at 8 (a.m.)."

"All of us leave our windows open," said

Diane Cox, who with her husband and two children lives across the street. "Who would think this could happen in this area?"

"I'm shocked," she said. "Here we were last night with the windows open because of the heat. It's real scary."

Cox, who has lived on Chrisanta Drive for 13 years, said that as soon as she heard of the attack she felt the Valley Intruder had struck again, "and that's real frightening."

Heard Woman Crying

"We will put additional locks on our doors," she said. "The police said to keep our dog in the house at night."

A few doors away an elderly woman, who asked that she not be identified, said she heard a woman crying in the street about 2 a.m., but "I didn't go out." The woman placed no particular significance on the crying because "it was Saturday night," and there had been a party on the street earlier in the evening, she said.

The party, which included adults and children, had been at the Braffords and broke up at about 10 p.m., Jim Brafford said. He said neither Carnes nor the woman attended.

The Valley

Intruder

The Victims' Stories

A Path of Violence From the Southland to San Francisco

By CAROL McGRAW, *Times Staff Writer*

The first to die was 34-year-old Dayle Okazaki.

Law officers combing through her Rosemead condominium on that cloud-shrouded March 18 morning believed that it was a single act of violence—one of the more than 1,000 homicides reported yearly in Los Angeles County.

Five months later, after a task force of law enforcement officers compared notes on 30 unsolved assaults and killings, it became chillingly apparent that they were looking at the work of a serial killer.

The Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department announced at a late night news conference Friday that the assailant has definitely been tied to 14 murders and 19 assaults. Previously, investigators had conclusively linked the killer to eight deaths and 15 assaults.

The victims newly identified by Sheriff Sherman R. Block include Joyce Nelson, William Doi, Lela and Max Kneiding and Vincent and Maxine Zazzara. The others are Dayle Okazaki, Tsai-Lian Yu, Mabel Bell, Patty Higgins, Mary Cannon, Chainarong Khovananth, Elyas Abowath and Peter Pan. The crimes linked Friday to the killer occurred weeks ago, and local law enforcement officials had strongly suspected a connection.

In an investigation larger than the one in the infamous 1977-78 Hillside Strangler case, detectives are going over every detail of the deaths, apparently at the hands of what one law officer called a "cunning and very, very dangerous" killer.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

II-1 LOS ANGELES TIMES
LOS ANGELES, CA

Date: 8/25/85
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One of the victims was a student, another a special education teacher. Two were business executives and one a parking lot attendant.

Several were doting grandmothers, others lived alone. One contributed his time as a deacon in his church, another practiced meditation in his garden. One adored Glenn Miller records, another played the organ. One had been detained in a Japanese detention center in World War II.

They moved to California from many places: Pakistan, Italy, Pennsylvania, Kentucky. Five were Asians. Although their origins differed, they have become inextricably linked in death.

The Valley Intruder or Night Stalker, as detectives have dubbed him, preys mainly on the most vulnerable—children, women living alone, elderly couples. He has snatched at least two children off the streets, sexually assaulted

children off the streets, sexually assaulted them and let them go. He dragged one young woman from her car and shot her to death. Most often, however, he has crept through unlocked windows and doors before dawn, attacking while his victims slept. Several of the homes were ransacked and valuables were taken.

He has bludgeoned some victims, slashed others and shot still others to death. Victims who have lived to tell about the terrifying attacks have described their assailant as a 25- to 30-year-old man, 6 feet tall, slender, with curly hair and stained, gapped teeth.

The homes of his murder victims are surprisingly similar: All but one are small single-story residences with tidy front yards. Most are set serenely in look-alike middle-income neighborhoods within sight of freeways or within blocks of off-ramps. Almost all were painted shades of yellow.

The attacks were first clustered in the San Gabriel Valley—Arcadia, Monterey Park, Rosemead, Monrovia and Sierra Madre. In August, as law enforcement agencies and Neighborhood Watch groups in those areas were on the alert, the killer ranged further. Murder cases bearing his stamp cropped up along the freeway corridors of the foothills, in Glendale, Northridge, Sun Valley and Diamond Bar. And last week the swath of violence spread to San Francisco.

Here are the victims' stories, as pieced together from interviews with police, relatives and friends.

DAYLE OKAZAKI

Rosemead, March 17

Dayle Okazaki, two weeks shy of her 35th birthday, spent the evening of March 17 at her parents' house, watching a television movie and chatting about her boyfriend and recent promotion to traffic supervisor with Los Angeles County.

Born in Hawaii, the slightly built Miss Okazaki had attended local schools, including Pasadena City College. She was one of three children from a closely knit family.

She loved skiing, shopping and planning parties, making holidays of the most mundane occasions, her sister said. "It just made her happy to make other people happy. Whatever she bought she shared. When she went to the zoo, she bought everyone Panda pins. When she bought a gigantic bag of popcorn on sale, she divided it into 20 small containers to give to friends."

A co-worker recalled: "One time I told her I had to spend the weekend painting my house. Saturday morning she showed up on the doorstep, paint brush in hand."

Miss Okazaki had been taking classes in cake decorating, flower arranging, computer programming and, most recently, self-defense.

Miss Okazaki left her parents' home about 9 p.m. for her own in nearby Rosemead—a new condominium she had saved for several years to buy.

Her mother recalled warning her to drive carefully on the freeway because her car was not in good condition. Shortly after 10:45 p.m., an assailant sneaked into her home through a garage door and shot her several times. Her roommate was wounded in the assault but was able to phone for help.

When Miss Okazaki was buried at Rose Hills Memorial Park, there were so many mourners that additional seating had to be provided outside.

Her mother, who still cries at the mention of her daughter's name, said: "You think it won't happen to you. And when it happens to you, what can you say? It will never go away. The pain."



TSAI-LIAN YU

Monterey Park, March 17

Police say that on the same evening, less than an hour after Miss Okazaki was murdered and less than two miles away in Monterey Park, the same assailant dragged Tsai-Lian Yu from her car and shot her repeatedly. He drove away from the lightly traveled, well-lit neighborhood, leaving his victim's car behind.

The 30-year-old student lived with her family in a middle-income neighborhood in Monterey Park.

Family members say her death is still a "very painful subject."

A sister said in Chinese that they did not want to talk about "this misfortune that has visited upon our family."

VINCENT AND MAXINE ZAZZARA

Whittier, March 27

The bodies of Vincent Zazzara, 64, and his wife Maxine, 44, were found by a business acquaintance in their ranch-style Whittier home on the morning of March 29. Zazzara, who was shot in the head, was found lying on the living room couch with a bullet in his head. His wife was found in a bedroom. She had been stabbed to death. The assailant apparently entered through an open door sometime between March 27 and 29.

The Zazzaras had lived in the neighborhood, which abuts the 605 Freeway, for eight years. A retired investment counselor, he was owner of Circus Foods, a Whittier pizza parlor only blocks from his home. He had two daughters, three sons and four grandchildren. Mrs. Zazzara, a Downey attorney, had one daughter. She belonged to several civic organizations and was a member of Trinity Baptist Church in Downey, where she sang in the choir.

"They were very friendly, outgoing people," one neighbor said.

"He was always planting trees. After he moved in, he must have planted 75 of them around his house. He used to laugh about it with me and say he did it 'cause he liked to dig the holes," a friend said.

They were buried at Rose Hills Memorial Park, only a block away from their home.

That cemetery also became the final resting place of four other victims of the Valley Intruder.



WILLIAM DOI

Monterey Park, May 14

On the morning of May 13, William Doi, 65, drove to a Ford dealership and placed a down payment on a family van. That afternoon he told neighbors about the vehicle and talked excitedly about touring the state. He suffered a heart attack three years ago, and his wife had suffered a stroke, but both were feeling better and were looking forward to "living it up."

Early the next morning, an assailant crawled through an open window in their Monterey Park home, shot him in the head and assaulted his wife. Doi managed to telephone the emergency 911 number before losing consciousness. His call, which flashed his address on a police dispatcher's screen as he was dying, saved his wife's life.

Doi, who had recently retired from his job as international sales manager at Santa Fe Trails Trucking Co., grew up in the Salinas Valley. He was placed with other Japanese Americans in an Arizona relocation camp during World War II and later joined the 442nd U.S. Army Regimental Combat Team.

After the war he moved to Chicago, where he attended Northwestern University and worked as a shipping clerk to support his wife and baby. He moved steadily up the corporate ladder and in 1972 moved to California.

A witty and extroverted man, Doi belonged to the East Side Optimist Club. He liked golf and the Los Angeles Lakers and doted on his 4-year-old grandson, taking him to Japanese festivals, carnivals, the beach, his daughter said. Overhearing her conversation, her son sobbed: "I want my grandpa back. I want my grandpa back."

The Rev. Ken Yamaguchi of the Buddhist Church of San Francisco said he and Doi used to have rambling philosophical conversations.

"He worked hard and loved his Jaguar, Cadillac and nice home. But in spite of all that he told me several times that we have to share our lives and thoughts with each other... because in the end that's all we really have."



MAX AND LELA KNEIDING

Glendale, July 20

When Max Kneiding, who rarely missed a Saturday service, failed to show up for his deacon duties at the Glendale Seventh-day Adventist Church on July 20, the Rev. Arthur Torres was concerned.

Shortly before he began to preach, Torres was handed a note by an usher: Max and his wife, Lela, had been shot to death.

"I could hardly go on," Torres said. The tragedy hit the congregation hard, he said. "They were angry, they were upset, they had question after question—why would God let this happen to such good people?"

Kneiding, 68, who owned a service station, and Mrs. Kneiding, 66, who worked for the security force at Robinson's department store, had been high school friends in Iowa. They had been married 47 years.

A quiet, hard working man, Kneiding had a streak of the madcap. Friends fondly remember his "Maxiburgers" at back yard barbecues, the time he wanted to buy a ghost town and his forays in the stock market.

"Max liked to joke about his 'abilities' in the market," a friend said. "But he never did lose money. He just got a kick out of buying something at \$2, watching it go up to \$16, then watch it come back down again."

Mrs. Kneiding was a good match for her husband, friends said. She would call a friend for lunch—and drive 100 miles to a new spot. An avid Laker and Dodgers fan, if she had chores or a party when a game was on, she would lug along a portable TV and radio. In her spare time, she played the organ.

The Kneidings' three children and 13 grandchildren were the center of their lives. They left their door unlocked so family members could come and go.

Their assailant walked through the unlocked door.

Two weeks later, Torres took to the pulpit to address the Kneidings' family and friends.

"To try and give a rational explanation for an irrational act is to legitimize it," Torres said. "But we need not mourn as those who have no hope."



Joyce Nelson, a petite 61-year-old Monterey Park grandmother, loved golf and Glenn Miller music. She lived alone in a white-shuttered house in a pleasant Monterey Park neighborhood, not far from where William Doi, Dayle Okazaki and Tsai-Lian Yu had been murdered.

In the weeks before she died, Nelson and a friend talked about the rash of murders in their community. "I was fussing at her, but she told me that people can't live their lives in fear."

For 32 years, Nelson had worked the production line at Coast Envelope Co. In earlier years, co-workers said, she did cartwheels daily down the aisle before work.

She and a friend, who also worked at Coast, planned to retire next year so they could spend more time playing golf.

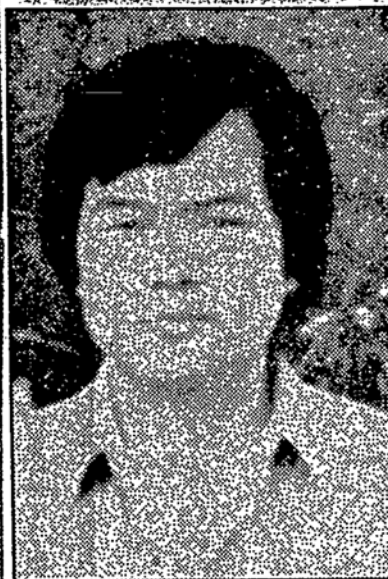
She spent hours helping friends and family with chores and teaching her grandchildren how to play Scrabble. The week before she died, she went shopping with her 13-year-old granddaughter. The last time her family saw her was July 4, when she shared a big bag of fireworks.

On the night of July 6, she fell asleep on the couch watching television. Hours later, an assailant crawled through a window and bludgeoned her to death.

Several neighbors later told police that around 3 a.m. they had heard a dog barking, bushes rustling and a scream.

CHAINARONG KHOVANANTH

Sun Valley, July 20



The last time Chainarong Khovananth's sister saw her brother alive was on her daughter's birthday.

"He had been to Mexico and brought her back a beautiful leather jacket. He loved her like he did his own," she said tearfully.

Khovananth, a 32-year-old parking attendant who immigrated from Thailand 10 years ago, lived with his wife and two children in a small frame house that abuts a freeway in Sun Valley.

A quiet, friendly man, Khovananth loved to spend hours in his yard gardening.

An assailant stalked through that garden around 6 a.m. July 20, entering the house and fatally shooting Khovananth. He then tied up and beat Khovananth's wife, Somkid, and his 8-year-old son. Both survived. A 2½-year-old daughter slept through the ordeal and was not harmed. Khovananth was buried with a deck of playing cards at his side, relatives said.

"He loved blackjack," his sister explained. "But it wasn't really the card game he liked. It was being with his family, friends... making them happy."

MABEL BELL

Monrovia, May 29

Mabel Bell, 84, and her invalid sister, Florence Lang, 81, had spent the last 25 years in the modest home framed with roses and a white picket fence on the outskirts of Monrovia.

Living high above the San Gabriel Valley on a lonely winding

road, they had only one close neighbor. Bell liked it that way, but her relatives worried.

Born in Kentucky, Ma Bell, as her family called her, moved to California 35 years ago. Widowed at an early age, she worked as a secretary for Vernon Tool Co. to support her two children. Mrs. Bell, not wishing her invalid sister to be institutionalized, took her into her home.

She was the center of the family, which included 12 grandchildren. Two of those she helped through college.

Although Mrs. Bell's health was deteriorating, she still drove her own car and played bridge several times a week.

Every year she sent a contribution to a fund to keep the Statue of Liberty in good condition.

"On one side she was the very practical business woman, on the other, a warm caring person," said a grandson, his voice hoarse with emotion. "I still can't talk about her."

Some time between May 29 and June 1, an assailant entered the home through an unlocked door and viciously beat both women. On the morning of June 1, a gardener, suspicious because of their open door, entered the tiny house and found the battered women lying in their bedrooms.

Mrs. Bell, whom friends called a "gutsy, independent old lady," clung to life for six weeks after the brutal assault but died of massive body trauma July 15.

Her sister survived, but relatives said she can no longer speak and will be hospitalized indefinitely.

PATTY ELAINE HIGGINS

Arcadia, June 27

The first time the Monrovia School District's personnel director met Patty Elaine Higgins, she could not imagine how the quiet "frail-looking wisp of a woman" could possibly handle a roomful of aggressive special education students.

"But we found she had a confidence, inner spirit and strength that was amazing," the director said. "She spent a great deal of time, energy and dedication on her job."

Miss Higgins, 32, grew up in a small town near Pittsburgh. After graduating from college, she became a counselor for emotionally disturbed boys and later taught disabled students in Virginia.

She moved to California in 1979.

"Few people knew her well," one friend said. "She wasn't one that told life secrets the first time she met someone. But she had some very close friends who were very special to her."

On June 27, she worked late at Bradoaks School, decorating her room and getting ready for summer school.

She apparently arrived at mid-evening at the bungalow in Arcadia that she shared with her pet cocker spaniel. She had no next-door neighbors because her house stands between a real estate office and a construction site on a dimly lit street near Santa Anita Park. Higgins did not show up at school on July 2, and co-workers, concerned that she might be ill, asked a friend to check on her.

He found her partially clad body in the bathroom. Her throat had been slashed. Police believe that the murder occurred June 27 or 28.

ELYAS ABOWATH

Diamond Bar, Aug. 8

The house perched on a hillside cul-de-sac in a relatively new neighborhood in Diamond Bar was not fenced and was poorly lit, police said. The murder took place about 4 a.m. Aug. 8.

Elyas Abowath, 35, was shot in the head shortly after the killer entered the house through an open door. His wife, Sakina, 28, was then assaulted. The two children were unharmed, and it was the 3-year-old son who went next door to tell neighbors, "Daddy isn't feeling well." Abowath was a Pakistani immigrant who worked for a computer company. He and his wife sometimes joined in barbecue parties at neighbors' homes.

In the aftermath of the tragedy, many area residents have barred their doors, locked their windows and have held slumber parties and all-night vigils to help them deal with the long hours before day.

"They were wonderful people; we won't say anymore," said close friends. "We're afraid to talk. So is the family."

MARY LOUISE CANNON

Arcadia, July 2

Mary Louise Cannon, 75, a widow, lived in Arcadia, less than two miles from where Miss Higgins was murdered.

Her husband died two years ago, and she had fought off two bouts of cancer. But she was an independent woman who had the strength to rebound.

Born on a farm near Downey, Cannon attended business school and married Darrel Cannon, a local horse trainer, and kept books for their business.

Mrs. Cannon, who enjoyed needlepoint, her roses and visiting

with her five granddaughters, had recently redecorated her house with new carpeting and furniture. She was looking forward to a trip to Australia with a senior citizens' group.

On July 1, she was in a minor traffic accident. Her car was damaged, and a police officer gave her a ride home.

The next morning a neighbor went into her house after finding that a screen had been pulled off a front window. He called police after he found belongings strewn about the place.

Police found Mrs. Cannon in the back of the house, with her throat slit.

Two months later, her son said that the horror of the murder really hit when he visited the house. "I saw all the fingerprint powder all over the walls and large chunks of her new carpeting dug up by police as evidence."

PETER PAN

San Francisco, Aug. 17

"I can fly," Peter Pan told new acquaintances with a straight face when repeatedly quizzed about the similarity between his name and that of the story book character.

Pan, 66, who was born in Taiwan, attended the Wharton School in Philadelphia. He returned to Taiwan and worked for a railroad firm and later moved to Hong Kong, where he opened an import-export business.

Peter and Barbara Pan immigrated to California 16 years ago.

He enjoyed gardening. "He told me it was meditation for him," a friend said.

Pan "was the first to arrive for work in the morning . . . was a hard-worker who did his job without complaint and got along well with co-workers," his boss said.

He kept a photograph of his 3-year-old granddaughter on his desk.

During the night of Aug. 17, an intruder entered the Pans' home in the Lakeside District of San Francisco through an unlocked window.

Pan and his wife, 64, were both shot in the head. They were found the next morning by one of their three children, who stopped by for a visit. Pan had died of his wounds. His wife, a bank clerk, is in stable condition at San Francisco General Hospital, where for 16 years her husband worked as an accountant.

"He was very proud to be an American," a friend said. "He always talked about how valuable freedom is."

He added: "He was a pacifist. He hated violence."



He preys mainly
on the most
vulnerable—
children, women
living alone,
elderly couples.
Most often, he
creeps through
unlocked windows
and doors in the
pre-dawn hours,
attacking while
his victims sleep.

A Look at Night Stalker's victims and fear instilled in neighbors

By Mark S. Warnick
Herald staff writer

Teresa Beyerle heard the Night Stalker's first deadly shot.

She was inside her Rosemead condominium on the night of March 17 when the sound of gunfire came from the kitchen of her neighbor, Dayle Okazaki.

"I didn't know what had happened," Beyerle said. "It never occurred to me that somebody had been murdered."

The shot left Okazaki lying dead on her kitchen floor. And it made her the first of at least 14 people murdered by the vicious serial killer, according to authorities.

About an hour after Okazaki was slain and two miles away, Tsai-lian Yu became victim No. 2. Yu, 35, was pulled from her car in front of her Alhambra Avenue condominium in Monterey Park and shot repeatedly, investigators said.

She was the only one of the suspect's fatal victims not slain inside a home.

Until last weekend, the Night Stalker killings occurred exclusively in Los Angeles County — from Northridge, 27 miles northwest of downtown Los Angeles, to Diamond Bar, about 30 miles to the east. An attack on a San Francisco couple on the night of Aug. 17 was linked to the suspect after investigators connected bullets used in that assault with two killings in Los Angeles County.

Law enforcement agencies nationwide have been alerted to the Night Stalker, who enters darkened homes at night through unlocked doors and windows.

The killer also is being investigated in 19 other attacks, none of them fatal, all in the Los Angeles area. Cases under investigation stretch back to Feb. 8, said Los Angeles County Sheriff Sherman Block.

The Night Stalker's attacks have baffled authorities seeking to find a common denominator among his targets and in his method of operation. Victims have been shot,

stabbed or bludgeoned. Some people have not been killed.

In some cases, women were sexually assaulted. Often, but not always, houses were ransacked.

"In most serial killings, there's some degree of consistency," Block said. "Serial killers go after a particular kind of victim. There's no consistency here, either in race, sex or age."

The fatal victims ranged in age from 28 to 80. They included six men and eight women.

Six were Asian and eight were Anglo. While Block has acknowledged a "disproportionate number of Asian victims," he does not believe the killer has targeted members of any particular race. Instead, the sheriff said, the Night Stalker has attacked in homes with easy access.

The remaining 12 murder victims of the Night Stalker include:

■ Vincent Zazzara, 64, and Maxine Zazzara, 44. They were found dead in their home on Strong Avenue in Whittier March 27. They were killed between 10:30 p.m. and 6:30 a.m. the night before. He was bludgeoned to death and she was stabbed numerous times.

■ William Doi, 66, who was shot and killed inside his home on Trumbower Street in Monterey Park May 14. The attack occurred between 4 and 5 a.m.

■ Mabel Bell, 80, who was beaten in the head and body with a blunt instrument inside her ransacked home on North Alta Vista Avenue in Monrovia sometime between June 29 and July 1. Bell's 80-year-old sister, Florence Lang, also was bludgeoned during the attack but survived.

■ Patty Higgins, a 32-year-old teacher, was slashed to death during a burglary inside her Arcadia home between midnight and 2 a.m. June 28. Her partially clothed body was found on the bathroom floor of her rented duplex on West Naomi Avenue after she failed to show up for work at Bradoaks School.

■ Mary Cannon, 75, was beaten and had her throat slit on the night

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

A-13 HERALD EXAMINER
LOS ANGELES, CA

Date: 8/25/85
Edition: Sunday

Title: A LOOK AT NIGHT STALKER'S
VICTIMS AND FEAR
INSTILLED IN NEIGHBORS

Character:

or

Classification: Los Angeles
Submitting Office:

Indexing:

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SERIALIZED	FILED
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FBI — LOS ANGELES	

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of July 1. Her body was found in her East Haven Avenue home in Arcadia.

■ Joyce Nelson, 60, was shot to death inside her home on Arlight Street in Monterey Park on July 7.

■ Maxon Kneiding, 68, and Lela Kneiding, 64, were shot to death at their home on Stanley Avenue in Glendale between 1 and 2 a.m. July 20. Their assailant escaped with an unknown amount of jewelry.

■ Chainarong Khovananth, 32, died of a gunshot wound to the chest while asleep in his home on Schoenbrun Street in Sun Valley less than three hours after the Kneidings were murdered. Khovananth's wife and 8-year-old son were tied up and beaten for several hours after the shooting. Khovananth's 2-year-old daughter was unharmed. More than \$30,000 in money and jewelry was taken from their house.

■ Elyas Abowath, 28, died of a gunshot wound to the head in an attack between 2 and 4 a.m. August 8. Abowath was killed inside his Pinehill Lane house in Diamond Bar. His wife was beaten by the suspect. The couple's two sons, ages 3 and 3 months, were not harmed.

■ Peter H. Pan, 66, was found dead inside his Eucalyptus Street home in San Francisco on the morning of Aug. 18. He was shot in the head sometime during the night before. His wife, Barbara, 62, also was shot in the head. She remains hospitalized in stable condition.

The killings have aroused great fear among many people in areas in which attacks have been reported. Residents have deluged authorities with tips on the case, rushed to form neighborhood-watch groups and beefed up home security.

In some cases, neighbors of victims even talk of moving away. Beyerle, who lived next to the Night Stalker's first victim, said she and her husband plan to lease their condominium and find a new home.

"We've decided we don't want to stick around," she said. "We like excitement, but not this kind."

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

A-4 WEEKEND OUTLOOK
SANTA MONICA, CA

Date: 8/24/85

Edition: Saturday

Title: NIGHT STALKER KILLS
YOUNG AND OLD

Character:

or

Classification:

Submitting Office: Los Angeles

Night Stalker kills young and old

United Press International

Here is a chronological list of attacks listed as the work of the so-called Night Stalker.

- March 17, Rosemead — Dayle Okazaki is killed and her roommate Maria Hernandez is wounded in an attack in a condominium.

- March 17, Monterey Park — Tsal-lian Yu, 30, is pulled from her car in the 500 block of Alhambra Avenue and shot several times. She died the next day.

- March 27, Whittier (nearby unincorporated area) — Vincent Zazzara, 64, is beaten to death and his wife, Maxine, 44, is stabbed to death. Attacker enters through an open door. Their bodies are found by a business acquaintance March 29.

- May 14, Monterey Park — Wil-

liam Doi, 66, is shot to death in his home.

- May 29, Monrovia — Mabel Bell, 84, is fatally beaten. She dies July 15. Her roommate, Florence Lang, 81, also is badly beaten in the same attack. Women found June 2 by a gardener.

- June 28, Arcadia — Patty Elaine Higgins, 32, is slain, her throat slashed.

- July 1, Arcadia — Mary Cannon, 75, dies with her throat slashed.

- July 7, Monterey Park — Joyce Nelson, 60, is beaten to death in her home.

- July 20, Los Angeles (Sun Valley area) — Chainarong Khovanath, 32, slain in his home. His wife beaten and raped and their 8-year-old son was beaten. An estimated \$30,000 in jewels and

cash were stolen. Suspect flees in a maroon-colored Pontiac Grand Prix with a damaged right front fender.

- July 20, Glendale — Maxson Kneiding, 68, and his wife, Lela Ellen, 66, are shot to death in their home.

- Aug. 8, Diamond Bar — Elyas Abowath, 35, is shot to death in his home. His wife is beaten. Their two children, ages 3 and 3 months, were not harmed.

- Aug. 18, San Francisco — Peter Pan, 66, shot and killed in bed. His wife, Barbarba, 64, is shot and beaten but survived. The attacker entered through an unlocked window. The house was ransacked. The attack was positively linked to the Night Stalker.

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Ballistics Tests Tie Slaying in S.F. to 'Valley Intruder'

By ERIC MALNIC and MARK ARAX, *Times Staff Writers*

At least three different forms of evidence link the "Valley Intruder" to killings in San Francisco and the Los Angeles area, it was learned Friday.

These links are said to be ballistics tests, messages scrawled on walls and a "distinctive" piece of evidence the killer leaves behind in the homes of his victims. Not all three types of evidence are found in each of the cases.

Meanwhile, at a news conference late Friday, Los Angeles County Sheriff Sherman R. Block said "We have now definitely tied 14 murders (including the one in San Francisco) to this individual and possibly as many as 33 individual cases that have occurred."

Before the announcement investigators had linked the killer to only seven deaths (five others were under investigation) and a total of 27 attacks, including 15 rapes, beatings or kidnappings. The sheriff said details of the additional murders and other crimes would be released late Friday.

San Francisco Mayor Dianne Feinstein told a news conference earlier in the day that the ballistics tests established the tie between a weekend homicide there and at least two of the 13 slayings in the San Fernando and San Gabriel valleys attributed to the killer.

A police official familiar with the investigation said the homicides in which the killer has used a weapon other than a gun are related by other "subtle but definite" evidence left behind in the homes of the victims. This evidence has been found in a majority of the cases and is "so distinctive" that it will enable police to rule out "copy cats," the official said.

be looking into other common factors—including the fact that many of the victims—"a disproportionate number," as one investigator put it—are of Asian descent.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 1, PART 2
LOS ANGELES TIMES

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252 B-1 —

INTRUDER

Continued from Page 1

30s with gapped and rotten teeth. On Thursday, Block confirmed that the intruder had been linked to the weekend shooting in San Francisco that left accountant Peter Pan, 66, dead and Pan's wife, Barbara, 64, in critical condition with a bullet wound in the head.

On Friday, Feinstein also announced a \$10,000 reward for information leading to the conviction of the killer. The San Francisco reward is in addition to the \$10,000 posted by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors and to two anonymous donations—\$10,000 from one donor and \$10 from another—to the supervisors' reward. The city of Arcadia, where two slayings linked to the Valley Intruder occurred, has posted a \$5,000 reward.

Responding to a reporter's question, Feinstein said a ballistics test was the key link between the San Francisco and Los Angeles-area attacks. A police official in Los Angeles said the tests showed that the gun used on the Pans was also used in two murders here—one in Sun Valley, the other in Diamond Bar.

Both Feinstein and the official declined to elaborate on the caliber of the gun or other specific findings, but the San Francisco mayor did appeal to the public for any leads in the case.

"Somewhere in the Bay Area, someone is renting a room, an apartment or a home to this vicious serial killer," Feinstein said, indicating a belief that the killer may still be in Northern California. Investigators in Los Angeles say he may have returned to the Southland.

A police official said the "subtle but definite" evidence that links the Los Angeles-area murders is something that's "common, but not kinky."

The team has sent dental charts believed to be those of the killer to more than 3,000 dentists in the Los Angeles area. The charts were obtained from a dentist whose business card was found in a stolen automobile. Investigators believe that the car, recovered in March,

A specific message scrawled on a wall was found in both the home in which the San Francisco couple were attacked and in the home of at least one victim in the Los Angeles area.

had been used by the intruder during the abduction of a child. The dentist told police that the patient—who had used a phony name and address and had paid in cash—matched the description of the intruder. Investigators say little further evidence was recovered from the car.

The team is also continuing to check out reports that a maroon or brown 1978 Pontiac Grand Prix—possibly with a damaged right front fender—was spotted near the scene of a killing in Sun Valley. The team is discounting reports that a similar car was seen near the home of the San Francisco victims.

The Valley Intruder has been described by survivors as a curly haired man in his late 20s or early

Please see **INTRUDER**, Page 14

Message on Wall

Other sources said another clue—a specific message scrawled on a wall—was found in both the home in which the San Francisco couple were attacked and in the home of at least one victim in the Los Angeles area.

Sources close to the case have declined to describe the words scrawled on the walls other than to deny they were "Jack the Ripper," as reported by some news media. The FBI has prepared a psychological profile of the Valley Intruder based on information provided by Los Angeles County sheriff's deputies, Los Angeles police officers and other Los Angeles-area peace officers involved in the case.

On Friday, John Holford, public information officer for the FBI in San Francisco, said San Francisco police are providing additional information that will be sent to the FBI Academy in Quantico, Va., to flesh out the profile.

At his Friday news conference Block also criticized some police agencies and news organizations for releasing what he called "very crucial, sensitive" information regarding the search for the killer.

"This places our community in jeopardy . . . and it impedes our ability to go forward with our investigation," he said.

Times staff writers Mark A. Stein and Dan Morain contributed to this story.

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(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

A-1 WEEKEND OUTLOOK
SANTA MONICA, CADate: 8/24/85
Edition: Saturday

Title: STALKER TOLL AT 14

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e: Los Angeles

'STALKER' TOLL AT 14

Block adds 5 names to killer's list

Evening Outlook News Services

Investigators have now positively linked 14 killings to the so-called Night Stalker, who has terrorized victims in random attacks at their homes in both Southern and Northern California, Los Angeles Sheriff Sherman Block revealed Friday evening.

"We have now definitely tied 14 murders to this individual and possibly as many as 33 individual cases," Block told reporters at a late night news conference.

He said the total number of cases includes 19 non-fatal assaults, rapes and beatings.

He said all but one of the killings occurred in Southern California, and said there are no other slayings under investigation at this time.

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Police in Santa Monica have been investigating a Night Stalker connection to the rape-slaying of Jean M. Wildish, 48, in her 14th Street apartment during the early morning hours of Aug. 17, but Wildish was not on the list of new cases Block attributed to the killer at the press conference.

Block complained the news media has disseminated sensitive information that had been given to police agencies, saying "that information has significantly jeopardized the investigation" and endangered "the safety of this community."

It was reported earlier Friday that the killing of an elderly San Francisco accountant and the slayings of the other victims in several Los Angeles suburbs had been linked by ballistics tests and two other kinds of evidence.

San Francisco Mayor Dianne Feinstein revealed the ballistics connection at a news conference in which she appealed for public help to identify the suspect.

Media reports said two other similarities — messages scrawled on walls and an undisclosed piece of evidence left in the homes of the victims — led investigators to connect the various killings.

The reports said the evidence left in the homes, which a police official described as "subtle but definite" and "common but not kinky," would allow investigators to rule out any copy cat slayings.

They also said the killings now believed committed by the same man were not linked in all the same ways.

Block refused to say whether any links were common to all 14 slayings, but added, "There seems to be no consistency in victims — race, sex or age."

He also said the method of entry, slipping into darkened homes through unlocked doors or windows while the victims sleep, was still the main link in the probe.

Feinstein earlier Friday appealed to her city's residents to supply information about the killer suspected

of fatally shooting Peter Pan, 66, and critically wounding his wife, Barbara, 64, in their home Sunday morning.

"Someone has rented (the killer) a room, an apartment, or in some way come in contact with this individual," Feinstein told reporters.

"This is someone who will go into a home at night and kill. He kills at random children, women and men."

She also announced a \$10,000 reward for information leading to the killer's arrest and conviction, raising to more than \$35,000 the amount offered for his capture.

Los Angeles County supervisors

last week issued a \$10,000 reward, and public donations swelled the sum to more than \$20,000. Another \$5,000 was put up by the city of Arcadia, one of the suburban communities whose residents have been terrorized by the killings.

Los Angeles detectives also circulated a flyer to dentists who may have worked on the curly-haired suspect's badly stained and gapped teeth.

San Francisco police said one Southern California dentist had told detectives he worked on a man matching the killer's description. But the patient paid in cash and apparently gave a phony name, frus-

trating attempts to trace him.

The suspect, in his late 20s or early 30s, usually slips into darkened homes through unlocked doors and windows to attack victims as they sleep and then ransacks their homes.

Meanwhile in San Francisco a psychiatrist who specializes in examining murderers said the Night Stalker killer could be a psychopathic Vietnam veteran who has become addicted to killing.

Dr. Martin Blinder, author of a book on murderers and a psychiatric witness in many murder trials, said Friday the stalker may be a "Rambo gone awry."

Night Stalker sends chills through S.F.

By Mark S. Warnick and Jeff Gottlieb
Herald staff writers

SAN FRANCISCO — This city began trembling yesterday with the same fear and panic that has shaken Los Angeles in recent weeks, as authorities linked the vicious Night Stalker serial killer to a murder here.

The place that enjoys being so different from Los Angeles suddenly possessed strikingly similar characteristics: fearful residents, increased

police patrols and distribution of a haunting, police artist's composite sketch of a curly-haired man with gapped, discolored teeth.

It's that man — believed responsible for at least seven murders in the San Gabriel and San Fernando valleys — who police here describe as the suspect in an attack inside a San Francisco home earlier this week. The incident left a 66-year-old man dead and his wife seriously wounded.

Both were shot once in the head with a small-caliber gun after someone broke into their home, authorities said.

Killed was Peter Pan, 66, an accountant at San Francisco General Hospital. His 62-year-old wife, Barbara, a Crocker Bank employee, remains hospitalized in stable condition. She has not provided a description of her attacker to investigators.

San Francisco police said the connection between the attack here and two cases in Los Angeles was based on physical evidence found at the murder scene.

"There are very, very direct similarities," said Cmdr. Frank Jordan of the San Francisco Police Department. The evidence includes a message the killer scrawled at the Pan home, according to a source close to the investigation.

In addition, the source said, a 1978 Pontiac Grand Prix linked to one of the Los Angeles cases was spotted near the Pans' house. The car is either maroon or brown and has several dents.

To emphasize the importance of the case, San Francisco Police Chief Cornelius Murphy met yesterday with other top-level police officials and representatives from the department's nine stations. All officers on patrol were shown the

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

A-1 HERALD EXAMINER
LOS ANGELES, CA

Date: 8/23/85

Edition: Friday

Title: NIGHT STALKER SENDS
CHILLS THROUGH S.F.

Character:

or

Classification:

Submitting Office:

Los Angeles

Indexing:

b6
b7C

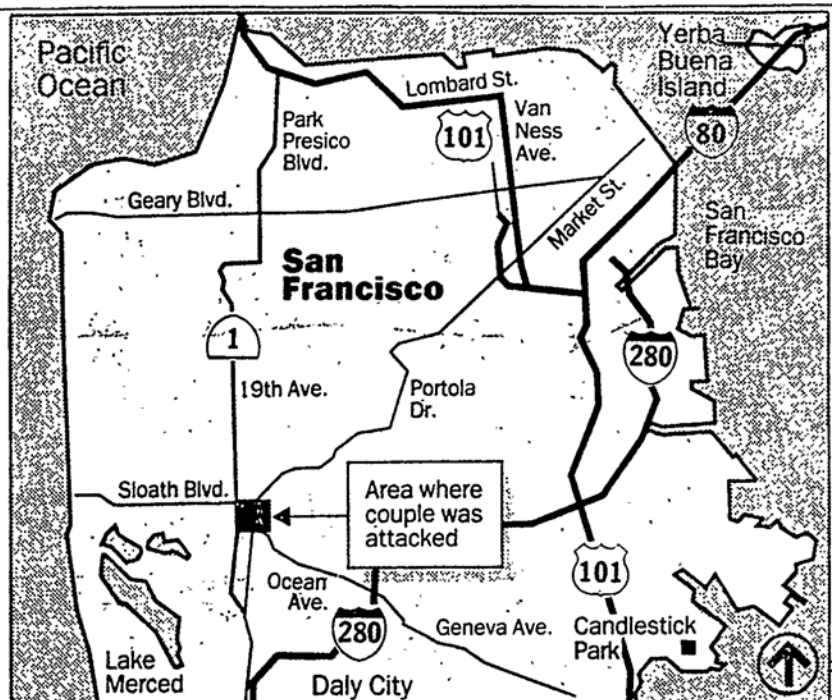
252B-1-8

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
AUG 23 1985	
FBI — LOS ANGELES	

FBI/DOJ



Map, right, shows San Francisco home of Peter Pan, who Bay Area police say may be latest victim of Night Stalker.



Night Stalker moves north

Stalker/Continued from A-1

composite drawing of the suspect. "When it's likely he'll strike again, we need to take all the steps necessary," Murphy said.

Los Angeles County Sheriff Sherman Block, whose department is coordinating a multiagency investigation of the Night Stalker, also confirmed the San Francisco link to the mass murderer yesterday. The suspect might be responsible for at least 30 attacks in the Los Angeles area, according to task force members.

He attacks his victims after entering darkened homes through unlocked doors or windows. His weapons have included a gun, a knife and a blunt instrument.

Los Angeles County sheriff's officials said yesterday that no other murders are being reviewed by Night Stalker investigators. However, because the killer appears to have moved to San Francisco doesn't mean he won't return, they said.

"We don't want our community to drop its guard," said sheriff's Deputy John Broussard. "They should treat the incident as if it took place here."

Los Angeles sheriff's deputies continue to be flooded with tips from citizens. "People see him all over the place," one detective said yesterday.

Official reaction to the Night Stalker here was exactly the same as that in Los Angeles, with authori-

"There are very, very direct similarities," including a message the killer scrawled at the San Francisco victims' home.

**Cmdr. Frank Jordan
San Francisco Police Department**

ties warning residents to lock their doors and windows and to be on the alert. In addition, San Francisco police sent an extra 80 to 90 plainclothes officers to patrol city streets last night.

"This will continue for an indefinite period until we evaluate what's next," Jordan said.

In the Pans' upper-middle-class neighborhood near Lake Merced, frightened residents said yesterday they were contemplating purchasing home alarms or securing their doors and windows. They were the same fears voiced in recent weeks by residents of such Los Angeles County cities as Rosemead, Arcadia, Northridge and Diamond Bar — all places hit by the Night Stalker.

"I'm scared to death," said Asya Mandelbaum, a next-door neighbor

of the Pans. "We're talking about installing bars over the windows or putting in an alarm."

"I never thought about that before, but this is very serious."

The Lakeside District where the Pans were attacked is a quiet, residential area with rows of two-story homes lining the streets.

Authorities believe the suspect entered the Pans' house through a side window hidden from the street and neighbors some time Saturday night. The Pans were found in their bedroom about 10 a.m. Sunday by their son, who does not live at home.

"Everybody feels touchy about this," said a neighbor who asked not to be identified. "We were hoping it was more of a gang thing than some sick guy."

The man said he planned to install bars over his windows and locked gates in front of his doors.

One young woman living across the street from the Pans said she had taken extra precautions in recent days, including placing a chair in front of her basement door.

"We're making sure we're locking up more carefully," said the 21-year-old, who also asked that her name not be used. "And we talk to our neighbors on the phone to check up and make sure everything's OK."

Like others, she too couldn't quite believe the attack on the Pans. "It was a shock because I never thought anything like this would happen here."

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Slaying of S.F. Man Linked to Valley Intruder

By ERIC MALNIC,
Times Staff Writer

Homicide investigators have confirmed that a weekend slaying in San Francisco is linked to the recent "Valley Intruder" killings and assaults in the San Gabriel and San Fernando valleys, Los Angeles County Sheriff Sherman R. Block said Thursday.

The Sheriff's Department declined to reveal how the attacks in cities 400 miles apart were related, saying only that clues found there have convinced members of a special task force sent to San Francisco that there is a common denominator.

"We can't say that it is the same individual (who committed the San Francisco slaying), only that it is related," said Sgt. John Broussard of the Sheriff's Information Bureau. "It would be poor investigation to rule out copycats or additional suspects."

Clues Withheld

Broussard said the clues found in San Francisco and evidence found here cannot be made public at this time for fear of compromising the continuing investigation.

The Valley Intruder—described by survivors as a gap-toothed, curly headed man in his late 20s or early 30s—is believed responsible for at least seven killings, and perhaps as many as a dozen, as well as 15 rapes, beatings and kidnappings in the Los Angeles area since last March.

Now, investigators say, he is the prime suspect in the attack in San Francisco on accountant Peter Pan, 66, and Pan's wife, Barbara, 64.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

I-1 LOS ANGELES TIMES
LOS ANGELES, CA

Date: 8/23/85

Edition: Friday

Title: SLAYING OF S.F. MAN LINKED
TO VALLEY INTRUDER

Character:

or

Classification:

Submitting Office: Los Angeles

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b6
b7C

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SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
AUG 23 1985	
FBI - LOS ANGELES	

Continued from Page 1

San Francisco police say the Pans were shot with a small-caliber weapon by an intruder who apparently entered their Lakeside District home through an unlocked door or window sometime between 10 p.m. Saturday and 10 a.m. Sunday. The assailant ransacked the home before fleeing, investigators said, but they were unsure if anything had been taken.

The Pans were found Sunday morning by a son who stopped by for a visit. Peter Pan, an accountant, was dead at the scene. His wife was taken to San Francisco Gener-



Associated Press

Peter Pan

al Hospital, where she was reported in stable condition Thursday.

San Francisco police would release no further details of the investigation, but Capt. Diarmuid Philpott did say that 70 extra officers have been assigned to the Pan slaying and that patrols throughout the city have been increased.

Also, undercover officers were briefed at a meeting Thursday night on the modus operandi of the Valley Intruder, who usually slips into darkened homes through un-

locked doors and windows, attacks victims as they sleep and then ransacks the home.

Some of those slain here were shot, others were stabbed or beaten. Several of those slain and assaulted were sexually abused, including at least one male.

The first killing attributed to the intruder occurred March 17, when Dayle Okazaki, 35, was found shot to death in her condominium in Rosemead. About an hour later, investigators said, a man walked up to a car in which Tsal-lian Yu, 30, was sitting alone at an intersection in Monterey Park and shot her to death.

On June 1, Mabel Bell, 84, and her sister, Florence Lang, 81, were found severely beaten in their home in Monrovia. Mabel Bell died; Florence Lang is still convalescing in a nursing home.

On June 28, Patty Elaine Higgins, 32, was found dead at her home in Arcadia. Police said her throat had been slashed. Four days later, the body of another Arcadia resident, Mary Cannon, 75, was found in her home. Her throat also had been slashed.

Killed While Sleeping

On July 20, Chainarong Khovanath, 32, was shot to death as he slept in his home in Sun Valley. His wife was assaulted and his 8-year-old son was beaten. Two weeks after that, Elyas Abowath, 35, was shot to death in his home in Diamond Bar and his wife was assaulted.

"He is extremely diversified, cunning and very dangerous," Broussard said. The sheriff's sergeant warned that linking the intruder to a crime in the Bay Area does not mean that residents here should relax their vigilance.

"We're still telling people (here) to lock up and light up," Broussard said. "We don't want to give a false sense of security."

While detectives have said nothing about the clues linking the attacks, Dr. Harvey Schlossberg, a forensic psychologist in New York,

said clues in serial murder cases instantly include some form of specific trademark left by the killer.

"Each killing is a lot like an artist's painting, based on the artist's needs and wishes, so there has to be some sort of element that ties them together," said Schlossberg, a former director of psychological services for the New York Police Department who worked on the so-called "Son of Sam" murder case. David Berkowitz pleaded guilty to the murders of six women and the attempted murders of seven other people in New York City in 1976 and 1977.

"In these serial murders, you have the same dynamic. Each one has the same touch that will distinguish it from anyone else's,"

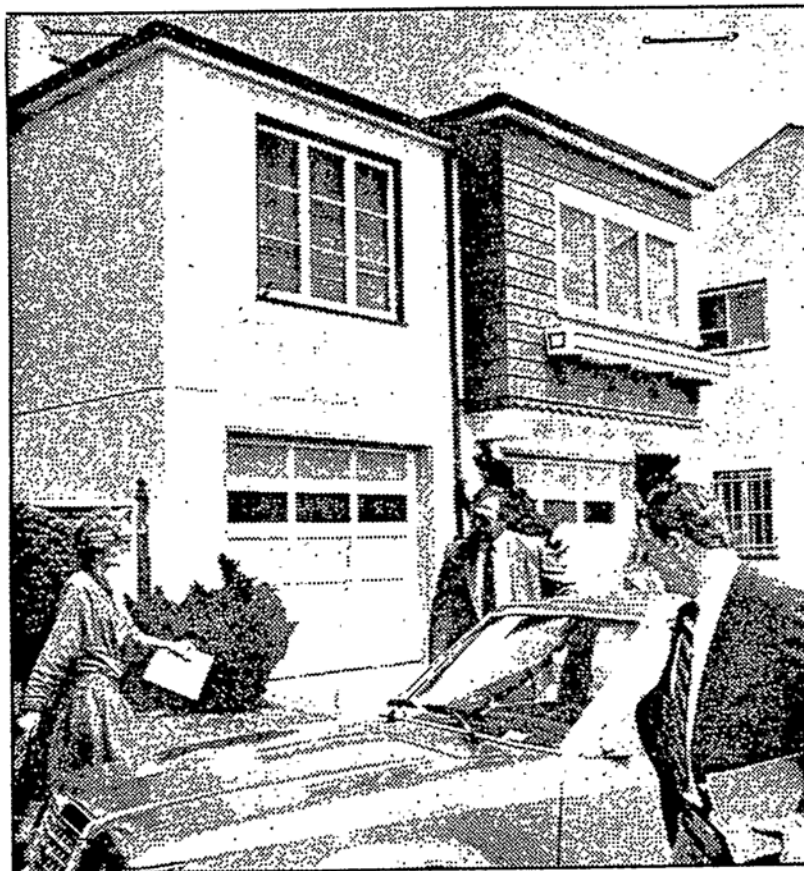
Schlossberg said.

An exception to this, he said, would be if the intruder's killings were motivated by the urge to rob. However, descriptions by police have not indicated that robbery was the primary motive.

In Los Angeles, Sheriff's Sgt. Frank Salerno, a veteran homicide investigator who played a key role in the infamous "Hillside Strangler" murders in 1978 and 1979, said another attack would come as no surprise to him.

"Most serial murderers don't stop," he said. "They might relocate. They will kill again."

Times staff writers Bob Baker and Carol McGraw contributed to this story.



Associated Press

Reporter and detectives outside house where killing occurred.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Night Stalker may have hit Bay Area

*L.A. investigators
meeting S.F. police*

By Mark S. Warnick
Herald staff writer

A brutal murder inside a San Francisco home last weekend could be linked to recent attacks committed by the Night Stalker, the vicious serial killer terrorizing the San Gabriel and San Fernando valleys, authorities said yesterday.

Two investigators from the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department task force working on the Night Stalker case went to San Francisco yesterday to confer with police there about a possible connection between the attacks, according to officials.

"Because of certain similarities between a murder case in this city and the recent serial murders in the Los Angeles area, investigators from both jurisdictions are meeting to determine if the cases are related," said Officer Joanne Welsh of the San Francisco Police Department.

The Night Stalker has been linked to 14 attacks — including seven murders — in the Los Ange-

les area and might be responsible for as many as 30 such incidents, according to investigators.

He attacks his victims after entering darkened homes through unlocked windows or doors.

The investigators went north at the request of San Francisco police, said sheriff's department Deputy Joe Garza. It was the first time members of the task force have traveled out of the area to look at a case that may be linked to the crime wave in the valleys, he said.

"At this point, we've got a big nothing," Garza said of the possibility that the Night Stalker committed the San Francisco murder. "We've gone to check some information and that's it."

San Francisco police refused to

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

A-1 HERALD EXAMINER
LOS ANGELES, CA

Date: 8/22/85

Edition: Thursday

Title: NIGHT STALKER MAY HAVE
HIT BAY AREA

Character:

or

Classification: 80-33B

Submitting Office: Los Angeles

Indexing:

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SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
AUG 22 1985	
FBI - LOS ANGELES	

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discuss or even identify the case being investigated, but it is believed to involve a brutal assault on an elderly couple inside the bedroom of their Lakeside district home. That attack, which left a 66-year-old man dead and his wife seriously wounded, is the most recent San Francisco murder with similarities to the Night Stalker cases.

The murder victim, Peter Pan, died of a gunshot wound to the head, according to a police report. His son — who does not live at the home — found him lying in his bed about 10 a.m. Sunday, the report said.

Barbara Pan, 62, was discovered on the bedroom floor, seriously wounded from a gunshot wound to the head. She also may have been beaten by her attacker, police said.

Pan remains hospitalized in sta-

ble condition.

The couple was last seen alive about 8:30 p.m. Saturday by a daughter who had been visiting for dinner, police said.

Several neighbors questioned by investigators said they noticed unusual occurrences outside their homes between 9 and 10 p.m. Saturday. One neighbor saw a light shine by her window curtain and another said she heard "a baby crying or whimpering," according to the police report.

Both neighbors said they looked outside to investigate, but didn't see or hear anything further.

Another man living near the Pans in the upper middle class neighborhood told police he saw the couple's front light on about 10 p.m. Usually, the man said, the couple's home was dark at that time.

San Francisco police said the suspect entered the Pans' house through a side window or door on the ground level of the two-story house. They would not say if the suspect forced his way inside.

State of siege in San Marino during Night Stalker search

By Mark S. Warnick
Herald staff writer

As helicopter lights illuminated the area and authorities ordered people behind locked doors, frightened residents of a neighborhood in posh San Marino became prisoners in their own homes during a frantic search for a fleeing suspect said to resemble

the vicious Night Stalker.

The residents, told only of "a police action in operation," remained inside for nearly five hours Monday night as a loud-speaker blared warnings and police dogs sniffed the yards of nearly 100 houses.

"It gave us a real strange feeling of being trapped," said

homeowner Elizabeth Johnson.

The unsuccessful search was called off early yesterday when investigators became convinced the subject of the manhunt had fled and was not the brutal serial killer.

Several hours later, however, the 17-year-old suspect surrendered to Monterey Park police. He told authorities he ran because he has an outstanding juvenile warrant.

Police said yesterday the youth was not considered the suspected Night Stalker, who has been linked to at least 14 attacks — including seven murders — in the San Gabriel and San Fernando valleys. The teen-ager was not held, although authorities said he could be charged with resisting arrest.

Monday night's search included low-flying helicopters, four police canine units and more than 40 officers from six local law-enforcement agencies. It scared homeowners in the two-block area — bounded by San Gabriel Boulevard, Lorain Road, Blackstone Road and Huntington Drive — and prompted an unprecedented number of telephone calls to the San Marino Police Department.

"Our switchboard was so deluged that calls were being forwarded into individual phones in the office," said police Capt. Jack D. Yeske. "It's the first time I've ever seen that happen."

Some residents said they were eating dinner when the search began, while many others were watching television or relaxing outside.

Instructions from a helicopter loudspeaker ordered residents to go inside — with their pets — lock all doors and windows and turn on

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

A-1 HERALD EXAMINER
LOS ANGELES, CA

Date: 8/21/85

Edition: Wednesday

Title: STATE OF SIEGE IN SAN MARINO
DURING NIGHT STALKER SEARCH

Character:

or

Classification:

Submitting Office: Los Angeles

Indexing:

252B-1-3

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SERIALIZED	FILED
AUG 21 1985	
FBI — LOS ANGELES	

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Resident Elizabeth Johnson says search "gave us a strange feeling of being trapped."

outside lights.

"We didn't want another victim and we didn't want innocent people walking around back yards being confronted by police officers and dogs," Yeske said.

The incident, which served to heighten anxiety in an area already alerted to the recent wave of attacks, left the neighborhood buzzing yesterday.

"I don't think I'm going out of the house without something in my hands," said resident Cecilia Bloomquist.

A member of a Neighborhood Watch group, Bloomquist said her block has made a commitment to watch out for each other. A neighbor who suspects something unusual has her permission to search her back yard and even look through a window, she said.

"Even if I was undressed, I wouldn't feel it was an invasion of privacy," she said. "I'd rather have that than something happen."

The intensive search began when the teenager, whose name was not released, ran after being stopped near San Gabriel Boulevard at Huntington Drive about 8:30 p.m. Monday. A San Marino police officer had noticed the youth was driving erratically and had an expired registration, said police Lt. Hal Havens.

As the officer tried to stop him, the youth drove his car into a driveway, jumped out and leaped a fence. The officer was within 10 to 15 feet of the suspect, but could not catch him, Havens said.

The officer immediately radioed authorities that the suspect matched the general physical description of the Night Stalker.

The Night Stalker has been described as Anglo or Hispanic, about 6 feet tall, 25-30 years old with dark, curly hair and gapped, discolored teeth.

Interest in the search heightened when investigators found in the youth's abandoned car evidence strongly supporting a possible link to the serial killer, Havens said. Authorities would not comment on that evidence yesterday.

In another incident Monday night, a man who resembled the suspected Night Stalker was spotted by a sheriff's deputy inside a Pasadena pizza parlor. After other deputies arrived, the man, Gregory Gayon, 46, was ordered outside, said Deputy Mike Ford. When Gayon started to pull a pistol from his waistband, he was disarmed by deputies and booked for assault with a deadly weapon. Sheriff's investigators, however, eliminated him as a potential suspect in the Night Stalker killings, Ford said.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Night Stalker may have hit Bay Area

*L.A. investigators
meeting S.F. police*

By Mark S. Wamlick
Herald staff writer

A brutal murder inside a San Francisco home last weekend could be linked to recent attacks committed by the Night Stalker, the vicious serial killer terrorizing the San Gabriel and San Fernando valleys, authorities said yesterday.

Two investigators from the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department task force working on the Night Stalker case went to San Francisco yesterday to confer with police there about a possible connection between the attacks, according to officials.

"Because of certain similarities between a murder case in this city and the recent serial murders in the Los Angeles area, investigators from both jurisdictions are meeting to determine if the cases are related," said Officer Joanne Welsh of the San Francisco Police Department.

The Night Stalker has been linked to 14 attacks — including seven murders — in the Los Ange-

Police check Night Stalker link to Bay Area slaying

Stalker/Continued from A-1

les area and might be responsible for as many as 30 such incidents, according to investigators.

He attacks his victims after entering darkened homes through unlocked windows or doors.

The investigators went north at the request of San Francisco police, said sheriff's department Deputy Joe Garza. It was the first time members of the task force have traveled out of the area to look at a case that may be linked to the crime wave in the valleys, he said.

"At this point, we've got a big nothing," Garza said of the possibility that the Night Stalker committed the San Francisco murder. "We've gone to check some information and that's it."

San Francisco police refused to

discuss or even identify the case being investigated, but it is believed to involve a brutal assault on an elderly couple inside the bedroom of their Lakeside district home. That attack, which left a 66-year-old man dead and his wife seriously wounded, is the most recent San Francisco murder with similarities to the Night Stalker cases. The murder victim, Peter Pan, died of a gunshot wound to the head, according to a police report. His son — who does not live at the home — found him lying in his bed about 10 a.m. Sunday, the report said.

Barbara Pan, 62, was discovered on the bedroom floor, seriously wounded from a gunshot wound to the head. She also may have been beaten by her attacker, police said. Pan remains hospitalized in sta-

ble condition.

The couple was last seen alive about 8:30 p.m. Saturday by a daughter who had been visiting for dinner, police said.

Several neighbors questioned by investigators said they noticed unusual occurrences outside their homes between 9 and 10 p.m. Saturday. One neighbor saw a light shine by her window curtain and another said she heard "a baby crying or whimpering," according to the police report.

Both neighbors said they looked outside to investigate, but didn't see or hear anything further.

Another man living near the Pans in the upper middle class neighborhood told police he saw the couple's front light on about 10 p.m. Usually, the man said, the couple's home was dark at that time.

San Francisco police said the suspect entered the Pans' house through a side window or door on the ground level of the two-story house. They would not say if the suspect forced his way inside.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 1
LOS ANGELES HERALD EXAMINER

Date: 8-22-85

Edition: MORNING

Title:

Character: 257B-1

or

Classification:

Submitting Office: LA

Indexing:

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 1 (SECTION 2)
LOS ANGELES TIMES

Date: 8/21/85

Edition: VALLEY

Title:

Character: 252B-1
or

Classification:

Submitting Office: LA

Indexing:

Despite Lots of Leads, Officials Baffled in Search for Intruder

By DAVID FREED, Times Staff Writer

Authorities investigating the so-called "Valley Intruder" slayings thought they had a break in the baffling case: a driver who had fled on foot from a San Marino policeman after a routine traffic stop closely resembled a composite drawing of the killer.

An all-out search was launched in the neighborhood around Huntington Drive and San Gabriel Boulevard where the driver melted into the night Monday. Roadblocks were erected. Four tracking dogs were called in. Thirty officers from several agencies went house to house while a sheriff's helicopter circled overhead, its bullhorn warning residents: "Stay inside, lock your windows and doors."

But the massive effort was in

vain. The object of the manhunt, who surrendered about 4 a.m. Tuesday to Monterey Park police, turned out to be a frightened, 17-year-old youth from Monterey Park who had been driving his mother's car without permission.

Authorities said that evidence found in the car absolved the youth of any involvement in the series of slayings. Detectives, however, would not describe the nature of that evidence.

It was the second incident so far this week in which authorities initially thought that they were close to the thin, gap-toothed suspect with curly hair believed responsible for at least seven slayings and as many as 13 rapes and

Please see INTRUDER, Page 12

INTRUDER: Lots of Leads but No Payoff

Continued from Page 1

beatings since March in the San Fernando and San Gabriel valleys.

In nearly every incident, people have been attacked in unfenced, poorly lighted homes by a man who sneaks through unlocked doors and windows.

On Monday night, a Los Angeles County sheriff's deputy walked into a pizza parlor on Lake Avenue in Pasadena and spotted a man resembling the widely circulated composite drawing of the intruder. The deputy called for help and other deputies soon arrived. Deputy John Broussard, a Sheriff's Department spokesman, said.

The man, identified as Gregory Raul Gayon, 46, was ordered outside. As he left, Gayon allegedly attempted to pull a pistol from his

pants and the deputies disarmed him, Broussard said. Gayon was taken into custody on weapons-related charges.

While arresting deputies were hopeful that they had captured the intruder, investigators from a multi-agency police task force working on the case soon eliminated Gayon as a suspect.

"It seems that there was no correlation between either of these two suspects and the Valley Intruder," said San Marino Police Capt. Jack Yeske.

In addition to the drawing, made from information provided by survivors and witnesses to the intruder's attacks, the Sheriff's Department, which is coordinating the investigation, has received nearly 1,000 tips from citizens, many of

whom are convinced they have seen the man.

"We are running into a lot of people who do bear a resemblance" to the drawing, Broussard said. "The sightings are becoming more and more common, and calls for service are up 10% to 50% throughout the sheriff's jurisdiction. All of the stations are extremely busy because every one of those calls is considered a priority."

Meanwhile, the county Board of Supervisors on Tuesday unanimously voted to expand its \$10,000 intruder reward fund by accepting private donations. Under the plan, approved on a 3-0 vote, money deposited in the fund would be paid for information leading to the intruder's arrest and conviction.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Police still studying Night Stalker link to murder in Santa Monica

By John Fleck
Herald staff writer

A detective investigating the brutal rape and murder of a Santa Monica woman Saturday says he is not ruling out the possibility the crime was the work of the Night Stalker.

"At this point I can't make a positive link to it, but I can't discount it either," said Santa Monica Detective Ray Cooper.

The Night Stalker, who enters darkened houses through unlocked doors or windows, has been linked to seven murders and 30 attacks on women in the San Fernando and San Gabriel valleys.

Cooper said Jean Wildish, in her 50s, was raped and then beaten to death early Saturday morning by an intruder who entered her 14th Street apartment through a sliding glass door.

Despite the similarity to the Night Stalker killings, Cooper said, the countywide task force investigating the string of grisly crimes has not yet been called in on the Santa Monica case.

"We investigate our own crimes," he said. But he said he is keeping the task force informed about his investigation.

"At this point I can't make a positive link to (the Night Stalker), but I can't discount it either."

Detective Ray Cooper.

The task force, spearheaded by Los Angeles County homicide detectives with help from local police departments, is part of what authorities have called the largest law enforcement effort in the Los Angeles area since the Hillside Strangler investigation in 1977-78.

Santa Monica police say the Saturday murder has stirred worried phone calls. But they say there is little they can do to reassure the mostly women callers except to suggest safety precautions. "The only thing we can tell them is the standard practice of locking up and the basic security measures that we normally give," said Sgt. Stan Conger.

An elderly woman living across

the street from Wildish said the murder has left her uneasy. "It doesn't help you a bit," she said. "It doesn't make the inside feel much better."

The woman, who asked to remain anonymous, said she and her husband always lock up anyway because of the transients in Santa Monica, but she has been encouraging friends to do the same since Saturday's killing. "I'm just speaking to the girls that live alone, asking them to keep their doors locked, windows locked," she said.

Wildish was killed by an intruder who entered her apartment at 1424 14th St. through a sliding glass door on a balcony. Cooper said Wildish was raped. He added there is evidence of attempted burglary, but would not say whether anything was taken.

Wildish was killed by "blunt force trauma," according to Cooper, who would not say where she was hit or with what. The county coroner's office refused to release any information on the case.

Wildish was home alone when the attack occurred. Her body was discovered Saturday morning after a friend couldn't reach her and phoned police.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

A-3 HERALD EXAMINER
LOS ANGELES, CA

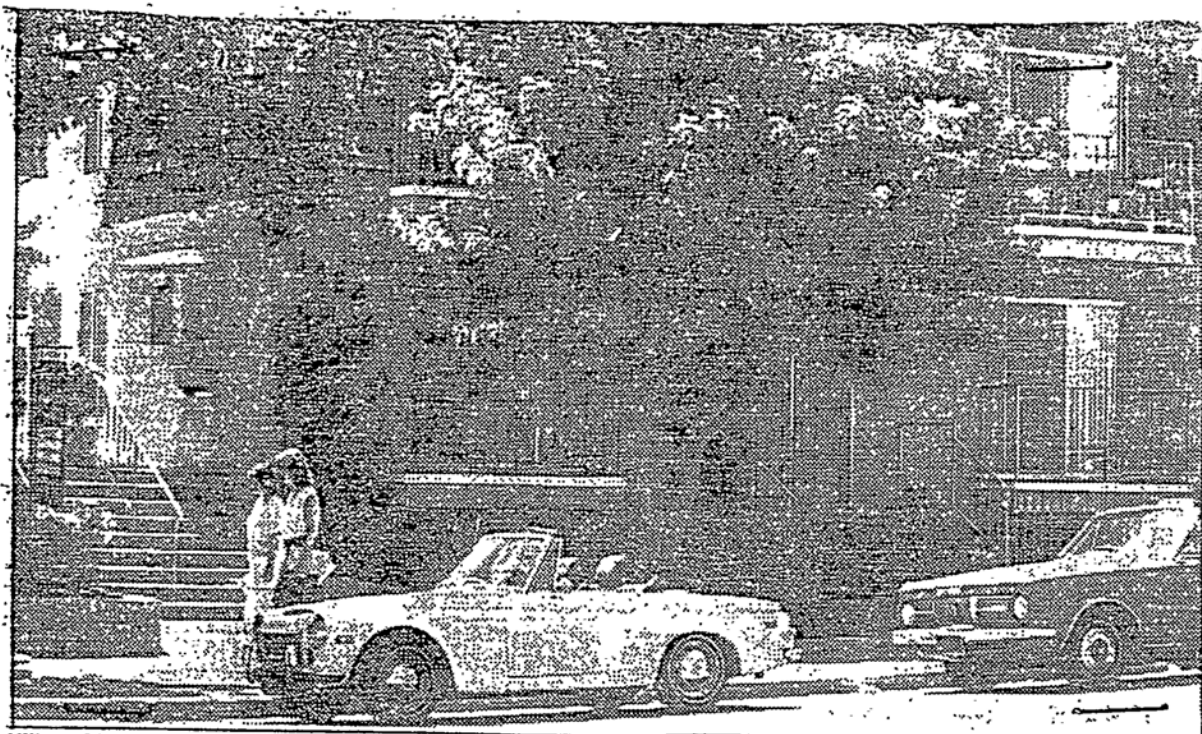
Date: 8/19/85
Edition: Monday

Title: POLICE STILL STUDYING
NIGHT STALKER LINK TO
MURDER IN SANTA MONICA

Character:
or
Classification:
Submitting Office: Los Angeles

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SERIALIZED _____ FILED _____
AUG 19 1985
FBI - LOS ANGELES

b6
b7C



Killer of Jean Wildish entered her apartment on Santa Monica's 14th Street through sliding door on balcony, police say.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Night Stalker attack in Santa Monica?

Woman assaulted, slain in apartment

By John Crust
Herald staff writer

Concerned Santa Monica residents were calling police yesterday after a woman in the seaside city was sexually assaulted and killed in an attack strongly resembling the seven recent slayings linked to the Night Stalker.

"People have called," said Santa Monica police dispatcher Debbie Tenney. "They're scared. They're concerned it happened in the area. They feel it could be the Night Stalker in the valley. We've been telling them the evidence hasn't been processed and he's not linked at this time."

The Night Stalker, who gains entry through an unlocked window or door late at night, has been linked to at least seven killings and up to 30 attacks primarily in the San Fernando and San Gabriel valleys. A multi-police department task force — the largest since the Hillside Strangler killings in 1977 and 1978 — has been investigating the wave of attacks.

Yesterday's assailant entered the woman's apartment in the early morning hours through a sliding glass door on a balcony overlooking the 1400 block of 14th Street. Santa Monica police Sgt. Bill Brucker did not know how the woman was killed or whether the door was unlocked.

The woman, believed to be in her 50s, was at home alone. Her name was not released because her family had not been notified.

"I came down this morning," said a 34-year-old woman who lives in a neighboring apartment building. "I saw the yellow tape and the police. It was quite a shock. She was a very nice woman."

The neighbor, afraid to give her name, said residents fear the killer could be the Night Stalker. She said residents are now bolting windows and doors, adding that many people until now believed such fears could be confined to the valleys.

"It hit a little close to home," she said. "I was out of state for a while."

"Anyone would be scared," said Tenney. "Everyone wanted to know if this was linked to all those killings in the valley. It happened in Santa Monica, right away, they think it's him."

The neighbor, who would not identify the victim, said the woman's teen-age son yesterday returned from a six-week vacation in New Zealand where he was visiting relatives.

"He saved up his money and she helped him," the neighbor said. "She was going to pick him up (yesterday from the airport)."

Brucker said a woman who was to go on an errand with the victim telephoned authorities when she could not reach the victim shortly after 9 a.m.

Homicide detectives have information on the Night Stalker from the task force investigating the wave of attacks.

"We are aware of the incident," said sheriff's Deputy Jerome Beck, but said the task force has not been asked to help in the investigation.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

A-13 HERALD EXAMINER
LOS ANGELES, CA

Date: 8/18/85
Edition: Sunday

Title: NIGHT STALKER ATTACK IN
SANTA MONICA?

Character:
or
Classification:
Submitting Office: Los Angeles

Indexing:

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SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
AUG 19 1985	
FBI — LOS ANGELES	

b6
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(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Temple City shaken by Night Stalker

Brutal attacks shatter peace of community

By Mark S. Warnick

Herald staff writer

With its grassy back yards, quiet tree-lined streets and absence of parking meters, Temple City could pose for a picture of America in the '50s.

But it feels like America in the '80s.

For many of Temple City's 30,000 residents and others in the San Gabriel Valley, the past few months have offered a shocking reminder that brutal, senseless crime doesn't ignore idyllic suburban cities like theirs.

A wave of approximately 30 violent attacks — nearly half of them already linked to the so-called Night Stalker — has disrupted their lives. Residents tell authorities they won't go out at night. In some homes, children sleep in their parents' bedroom. On hot, humid evenings, windows are shut and locked as homeowners forgo comfort for safety.

"These are residential, bedroom-type communities," said Sgt. Frank Gomez of the sheriff's department's Temple City station. "This is disruptive to say the least."

Because of the Night Stalker's methods, authorities have instructed residents to lock all doors and windows at night and install adequate outside lighting. In some places, such advice would be redundant. In Temple City, many people never worried about those things.

"It was just easier before," said Pam Chapler, 17. "I didn't ever feel scared. Temple City is like the safest place on Earth. Not any more, obviously."

Chapler, whose parents are contemplating buying a gun as the search for the Night Stalker continues, last week attended a class on how to use Mace. At her home, the doors are locked with a dead-bolt for the first time, even during the day.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

A-3 HERALD EXAMINER
LOS ANGELES, CA

Date: 8/18/85

Edition: Sunday

Title: TEMPLE CITY SHAKEN BY
NIGHT STALKER

Character:

or

Classification:

Submitting Office: Los Angeles

Indexing:

252B-1

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
AUG 19 1985	
FBI - LOS ANGELES	

b6
b7c

"It's scary," she said. "I don't even want to be anywhere alone."

Such thoughts are unusual in this town 13 miles northeast of Los Angeles. Since its incorporation in 1960, Temple City has been known as a quiet, peaceful community, a Norman Rockwell painting come to life.

From the start, according to Mayor Bill Dennis, the city's philosophy has been to maintain a family oriented residential community.

Change is slow and subtle and likely won't ever be significant. The town covers less than 4 square miles, has little vacant land and no room for more industrial growth.

"Temple City is a bedroom community, very family oriented and youth-oriented," said Dennis, a lifelong resident. "We have a relatively low crime rate."

"When something like this does happen, it's probably more evident than in many cities that take something like this as a more common fact," he said.

The series of violent murders and assaults in the San Gabriel and San Fernando valleys has prompted many residents to purchase guns and home-security systems, register for pistol-training classes and, in many cases, live in a state of perpetual fear.

"I never before kept lights on while I slept," said Tracy Tschanz, 25, explaining that she's more afraid than ever. "But you start to freak yourself out. You believe you're hearing noises."

Anger over the attacks stems not only from obvious disgust with the killings but also strong resentment over the extent to which previously serene lives have been altered.

"I hate him for creating this fear in me," said Tschanz.

Many people, like Adele Walker of

Temple/Continued from A-3

nearby San Gabriel, get home before dark, keep their radio on at night and go to bed afraid.

"Before this happened, I felt gutsy being alone," said Walker, 41. "I thought I could do everything alone. I'm an independent woman."

"It makes you angry something is out there affecting you in this way."

Residents in the towns near here tend to blend together. An Arcadia resident may work in El Monte, eat lunch in Rosemead and see a movie in San Gabriel. So an attack in the area, regardless of the city, strikes at everyone.

At the Santa Anita Shooting Range in Monrovia, attendance is up since the attacks started, according to owners. Virginia Holdinski of Duarte began target practice after the Night Stalker killed someone three blocks from her sister's Arcadia home.

"I think it's unreal this person has a right to violate my feelings and my privacy," she said. "That animal kills people. I wish all the women could take this training."

In Temple City — which has not been the site of any of the recent assaults, although incidents have been reported in several adjacent communities — the Chamber of Commerce last week sponsored a luncheon program on "personal safety awareness." More than 70 people attended.

"There is an awareness and a great concern," said chamber manager Marianne Milch. "This is the first time we've really had anything like this."

The Temple City sheriff's sta-

tion, which works with more than 200 Neighborhood Watch groups, has received a steady stream of requests recently from residents wanting to organize their blocks. Nina Carlisle of San Gabriel and her neighbors plan to meet tomorrow night to unite in the wake of the ongoing attacks.

"I don't like living in fear and that's what I've been doing," Carlisle said. "To all of a sudden be threatened by this has created a lot of tension."

At least 14 of the recent attacks, including seven murders, have been linked to the Night Stalker, who enters darkened houses through unlocked doors or windows and heads straight for the occupants. Victims have been shot to death, knifed and bludgeoned. Some of the women have been raped.

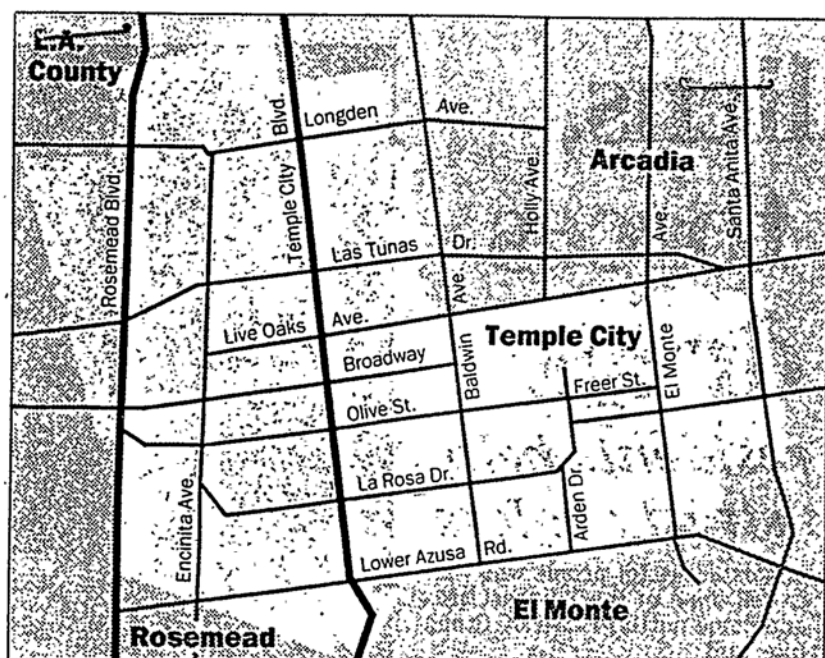
The attacks have led to the largest local law enforcement investigation since the Hillside Strangler slayings in 1977 and 1978. More than 50 detectives from six agencies are working on the case.

Hardware stores here report marked increases in sales as residents rush to secure their homes. At McVey Hardware, on one of Temple City's few main streets, lock sales are up "more than 100 percent, easy," said owner Steve McVey.

"People come in and want to know what we advise, what's practical," McVey said. "They don't want any gimmicks."

McVey, a longtime local businessman, said the attacks have made him and his family much more aware of locking their house.

While he recognizes that major



Map above shows Temple City boundaries and main streets. At right, the city's location in San Gabriel Valley and surrounding communities.

crime has made its way to Temple City in a big way, he calls the spate of attacks "an exception."

"Every town has something like this once in a blue moon," he said. "It's too bad, but it's the day and age."

In recent weeks, authorities have received hundreds of tips from residents who think they've seen the suspect. The man has been described as Anglo or Hispanic, age 25 to 30, about 6 feet tall with curly hair and discolored, gapped teeth.

"We're having an overreaction of calls, which is good," Sgt. Gomez said. "There's just much more awareness of any stranger or any strange vehicles in a neighborhood."

"There's a general concern and rightfully there should be," he said. "I don't think it's paranoia and I don't think it's panic."



For some residents, like Renee and Dave Ruttan of Duarte, worries about an intruder are alleviated by adequate locks, a pit bull and a .357 Magnum. But their fears don't go away completely.

"It's scary," said Renee. "Our daughter Donna, who's 11, said she wants to move to some place that's not so scary. I told her there is no place like that any more. We just say our prayers and hope they get him."

Herald staff writer Timothy Carlson contributed to this article.



Michael Hoening/Herald photographer

A. County sheriff's Deputy Bill Phelton patrols late at night in Temple City, where attacks by the Night Stalker have caused rising fear in community.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Night Stalker linked to March 17 slaying of woman at her car

The murder of a 30-year-old Monterey Park woman, pulled from her car and shot March 17, has been positively linked to the so-called Night Stalker, a killer believed responsible for seven murders and up to 30 vicious attacks in the San Fernando and San Gabriel valleys. The murder of Tsai-lian Yu in front of her condominium had similarities to six other deaths attributed to the killer, sheriff's Deputy Rick Adams said yesterday. The Night Stalker gains entry into homes at night through an unlocked window or door.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

A-10 HERALD EXAMINER
LOS ANGELES, CADate: 8/15/85
Edition: ThursdayTitle: NIGHT STALKER LINKED
TO MARCH 17 SLAYING OF
WOMAN AT HER CARCharacter:
or
Classification:
Submitting Office: Los Angeles

Indexing:

b6
b7c

252B-1

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
AUG 16 1985	
FBI - LOS ANGELES	

Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 1 (PART II)
LOS ANGELES TIMES

Date: 8-15-85

Edition:
VALLEY

Title:

Character: 252B-1
or

Classification:

Submitting Office: LA

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Merchants Report Upsurge in Sale of Firearms and Locks as News of Serial Murders Spreads

A Fearsome Intruder Has San Gabriel Valley in Uproar

By GARY LIBMAN

A San Gabriel-area nurse is livid at the "Valley Intruder."

"I have two guns in the house," she said. "If he came to the door, I'd kill him."

In fact San Gabriel Valley residents are so upset by the killer who enters unlocked homes at night and may be responsible for six slayings and 15 rapes, beatings and kidnappings in the San Gabriel and San Fernando valleys that they refuse to give their names in interviews.

A Monrovia man says that every night at 1 a.m. he wakes his 1-year-old daughter and drives to pick up his wife at the restaurant where she works. Since the killings became known, his wife is afraid to walk alone the few feet from the restaurant to the lot where she parks.

Locking Selves in Bedroom

An Alhambra woman says that when her husband goes to work each night she and her 3-year-old daughter shut the windows and lock themselves in the bedroom.

"I have a phone and a bathroom," she said. "So there's no need to come out."

A Monrovia professor recently moved his daughter from a downstairs to an upstairs apartment in that city, while a South Pasadena bartender says that in her bungalow complex one of the seven women over 65 stays up each night of the week to watch for the intruder.

People are "buying the hell out of window

people who want to form neighborhood watches. Before the murders, calls for new watch groups had been rare.

The San Gabriel-area nurse said she is particularly angry at the intruder "because you're not even safe in your own home. It feels like a violation of privacy even though you haven't been accosted."

"I've heard he's carrying a gun and I don't know if it's true," she said, "but mine (a

*I have a strong sense of person
and property and a short fuse
when they're violated.'*

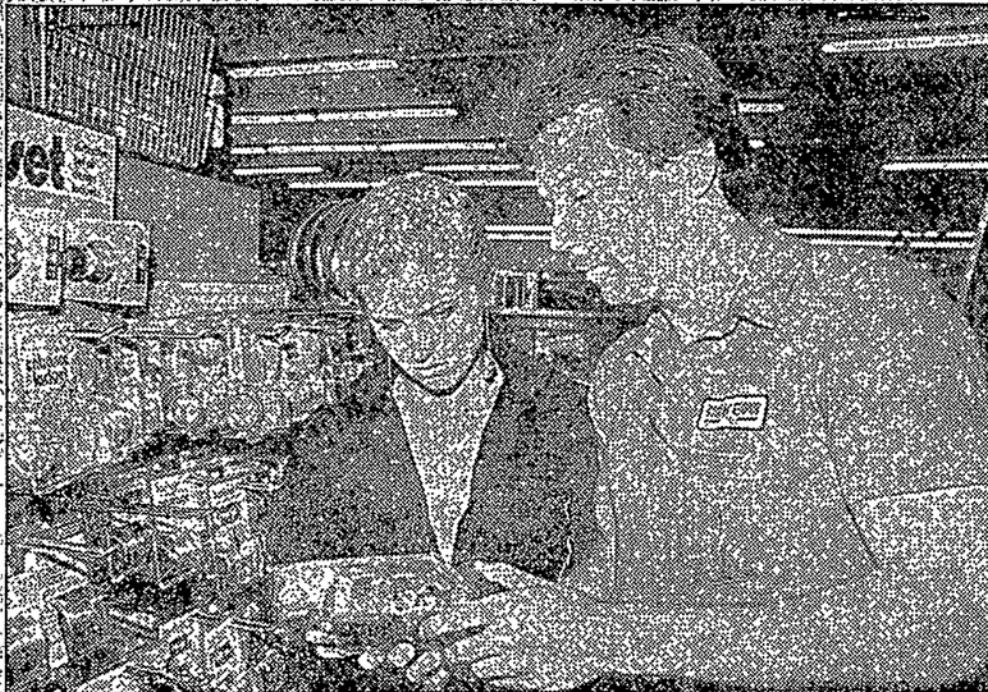
12-gauge shotgun and a .44-caliber magnum pistol) are loaded. My profession is healing, but I have a very strong sense of person and property and a short fuse when they're violated."

The attacks have cut across all age and sex lines.

The professor, wearing shorts while visiting an Arcadia shopping mall, said he moved to Los Angeles about 10 years ago, at the time of the Hillside Strangler.

"It was very fearful to us and our daughters, who were teen-agers," he said.

But this seems even more horrendous



LORI SHEPLER

Lock sales are up in response to the "Valley Intruder" crimes. Here, Steve Broten, Arcadia hardware store manager, helps Cindy Wallace make a choice.

"locks," and husbands are buying guns for wives as residents react to a possible serial killer who seems more fearsome because he attacks in the home and without a discernible pattern, police say.

"It's not like reading in the paper that it's happening back East," Detective Edward Winter of the Arcadia Police Department said. "When it starts happening in your town it makes you stop and think about it. That's what our citizens are doing.

"We hear a lot of people say 'I'm not sleeping well. I'm scared to death. I want to get an alarm.' I can't say it's quite a panic, but people are concerned."

"We're getting more calls from people who notice things," Lt. Joseph Santoro, commander of the community relations and crime prevention bureau of the Monterey Park Police, said. "In the past they might have rationalized what they saw and not called us."

Santoro said the police are doing 15 to 25 inspections daily for people who want to know if their homes are properly secured. They normally do eight to 10. The police are also receiving about three calls a day from

because of the fact that this person goes into people's homes. He's going into your sanctuary, your private place. That's very frightening to me, and he's doing it in such a diabolical way.

"He's not striking the same way twice and he's making it very difficult for the police, I'm sure."

The burly Monrovia man who picks up his wife after work, wearing jeans and a T-shirt and sipping a beer at an Arcadia bar, said that when his two dogs bark while he sleeps at night "I get my hockey stick and prowl the house.

"If you hear noise and you don't wake up and wonder about it (in this situation), something's wrong with you," he said.

"I used to have the windows open at night because I don't have air conditioning. Now I get home and open the windows and I get all the air I can and then shut them. At about 3:30 it's so hot you're choking."

An Alhambra office worker said that her husband used to work part time at night but stopped because she was petrified to be

Please see **INTRUDER**, Page 18

INTRUDER: Valley in Uproar

Continued from Page 1

alone. "I used to come home (and relax)," she said. "Now I come home and check all the rooms."

"During the summer when my husband would go off to work at night I used to leave the back door and the windows open. Now I'll sit in the house sweating but I won't open those doors. I'll sit in front of a fan and go wet my head."

"I was so scared that I had my husband buy me a stun gun," she said. The gun shoots two electrically charged darts that enter the skin and immobilize the body.

Turner's Sporting Goods in West Covina reported an increase in gun sales, but it was selling more than stun guns; it was doing a brisk trade in .12-gauge shotguns with an 18-inch barrel on sale at \$149.99. This is a legal weapon, not "sawed off." However, it is 10 inches shorter than the standard shotgun.

"Husbands are getting them for their wives," store manager Mike Battistoni said. "A lot of husbands are not home at night."

Handguns have a 15-day waiting period before you can pick them up. You can take the rifle or shotgun home the same day.

They also want a gun that's easy to use. "With a shotgun, you've just got to point."

Meanwhile, Fowler's Sport Center in Pasadena reported increased

sales of .22- and .25-caliber pistols.

Police, observing these sales, cautioned that gun buyers should know how to use them.

"And if you decide you have to use it, you have to be absolutely sure to use it for a good reason, the protection of your life or someone else's," Lt. Santoro said.

"You don't want to shoot an innocent person. You have to live with that the rest of your life."

In addition to guns, residents are also seeking protection by buying more window and door locks.

Steve Broten, general manager of Ace Hardware in Arcadia, said he couldn't keep enough window locks in stock, and Roger Weiss, manager of Builders Emporium in Temple City, said customers had made a run on window and door locks, particularly dead bolts. Ole's Home Center in Pasadena also ordered more window and door locks to keep up with sales.

Those sales reflect the bizarre nature of the recent crimes.

"I trust my husband to take care of me, but I'm not even safe with him (now)," the Alhambra office worker said. "I was talking to some lady at a nightclub. She said, 'Don't worry. He's not after you. He's only after single women.'"

"I said, 'Bull. He's after whoever he can get. He's just taking anyone at random. As long as he can get into your house.'"

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Title:

Character: 252 B -

or

Classification:

Submitting Office: LA

Ganging up against Night Stalker



Capt. Walt Mitchell displays Neighborhood Watch signs available from LAPD offices as part of crime-prevention program.

Javier Mendoza/Herald photographer

Frightened citizens gather; supervisors offer \$10,000 reward

**By Timothy Carlson
and Chris Woodyard**
Herald staff writers

The brutal killing of a 30-year-old Monterey Park woman may be linked to the elusive Night Stalker, who is connected to at least 14 recent attacks including seven murders, Los Angeles County sheriff's investigators said yesterday.

Meanwhile, reacting to the terror that has gripped county residents, the Board of Supervisors yesterday offered a \$10,000 reward for the stalker.

Sheriff's Capt. William R. Hinkle said the March 17 shooting of Tsal-lian Yu, 30, of Monterey Park is among the cases under investigation by a task force of detectives.

He said Yu was pulled from her car in the 500 block of Alhambra Avenue at 11:45 p.m., about an hour after Dayle Okazaki, the Night Stalker's first confirmed murder victim, was shot to death in her condominium.

Okazaki's home is about two miles from where Yu was shot repeatedly by the man who yanked her from her car at a stop sign. The man fled in a car.

In Los Angeles yesterday, Supervisor Pete Schabarum said, "It is important that (members of) this board do all we can to help in bringing the person or persons responsible for these senseless

Fear/A-9, Col. 4

Frightened residents up in arms as fear of Night Stalker spreads

Fear/Continued from A-1

crimes to justice.

Supervisor Kenneth Hahn, who joined in unanimous support for the reward, said that people now "live in terror."

This heightened awareness of crime and fear among citizens was evident last night during two neighborhood meetings.

In Diamond Bar last night, site of the Night Stalker's last murder, frightened residents met for the first time since the slaying last Thursday. And in the San Fernando Valley, residents joined in a national campaign to urge people to become involved in neighborhood watch programs.

The search for the Night Stalker has become the most intense joint police investigation since the Hillside Strangler case in the late 1970s. The sheriff's department is coordinating the investigation with five other police agencies in the suburban communities where the killer is believed to have struck.

More than 50 detectives from the six agencies are working on the case, said Hinkle.

Authorities again received a substantial number of tips from telephone callers yesterday, but reported no new leads in the investigation.

The suspect is thought to be an Anglo or Hispanic, 25 to 30 years old and about 6 feet tall, based on victims' descriptions.

His most recent attack may have come Sunday when an 84-year-old woman was raped in her San Gabriel home, though sheriff's investigators have indicated some doubt as to whether it was the Night Stalker.

During the Diamond Bar meeting, many of the 50 people who gathered at the public library said they are terrified because they are close friends and neighbors of Elyas Abowath, 35, who was the last person killed in this series of vicious crimes.

"These killings can't go on," said attorney Paul Horcher, one of the six members of the Diamond Bar municipal advisory council who called the meeting last night.

Sheriff's Capt. Don Webster of the Industry station told the residents he is intensely concerned about these crimes.

"I drove by that house this afternoon," he said. "There I sat and pondered the same question. Why this house? Of all the houses here, what drew this person to this residence? It was a random selection, but the common thread with all the killings was the presence of an open window or an open door."

"If something seems strange to you, call us," he pleaded. "I'd rather come out five or six times and meet a Fuller brush salesman or a TV repairman than miss a chance to catch this guy."

Webster told the people there to practice dialing 911 in the dark.

Don and Emelie Ledesma, neighbors of the Abowath family, said they have established a trust fund at a local Security Pacific Bank branch for the surviving wife and two children.

Don Ledesma's voice was laced with emotion when he recalled the reaction of Abowath's 3-year-old son, Aamer.

"The little boy went to Bob Wilson's house and asked for help that morning," said Ledesma. "In his 3-year-old understanding he said his parents weren't feeling well. We sat with the boy at his father's funeral. In his understanding, he thinks his father is sleeping."

Emelie said the neighborhood is stunned. "The shock of what happened — we still can't get over it," she said. "We can't sleep. We haven't been in our bedroom since that night. Now we have slumber parties in our neighborhood because we are all afraid."

Don added, "I want people to catch the guy, let's get back to living."

Emelie said, "My son, he's 17, and 6-foot-3 and 195 pounds, he won't go out. He sits in a chair with a baseball bat in his hands."

Bob Wilson, the neighbor who discovered the body after the little boy came to his house, said he and his neighbors have a gnawing fear. "What freedoms are there?" he asked. "You feel you have to be home before dark — and you don't sleep until it's light again. I've been exhausted at work. I come home at noon to check on the house."

About 50 miles west in Granada Hills, residents saw an artist's sketch of the stalker during a meeting for "Lights On, Night Out."

Chuck Schwennesen, 69, said residents of this middle-class community refused to be intimidated by the Night Stalker. "Our neighbors are concerned, yes, but we're not frightened to the point we'll give in," he said.

Schwennesen said he and many of his neighbors have guns.

Los Angeles police Capt. Walt Mitchell of the Devonshire division said his officers have distributed thousands of fliers with an artist's sketch of the stalker and his description.

"The way we're attempting to deal with that is to make sure people know we're looking for this guy and make sure he knows we're looking for him," he said.

The Night Stalker is being blamed for one crime in the Devonshire area, Mitchell said. "But one's too many," he said.

Residents also took the opportunity to plug Neighborhood Watch. Chuck Mason, co-chairman of the Granada Hills Neighborhood Watch, claimed the program was largely responsible for a 32 percent drop in crimes such as robbery, burglaries and assaults.

Mason said the wave of crimes attributed to the Night Stalker makes neighborhood watches even more important.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 1
LOS ANGELES TIMES

Date: 8-14-85

Edition: MORNING (Valley)

Title:

Character: 252B-

or

Classification:

Submitting Office: LA

Indexing:

Veteran Detective Leads Search for 'Valley Intruder'**Homicide Cop Is Perfect Man for the Job**By ROXANE ARNOLD,
Times Staff Writer

Sheriff's Sgt. Frank Salerno, the lead detective in the so-called "Valley Intruder" case, is everybody's idea of a good homicide cop.

"You don't want this guy following you," said one former sheriff's investigator. "Sooner or later, he's successful."

"He's as good as you can get," added Detective Sgt. Bill Williams of the Los Angeles Police Department.

The 46-year-old Salerno, who joined the Sheriff's Department in 1961, has "worked homicide" for almost 10 years. He has tracked down the flimsiest of clues in cases almost nobody remembers and, a few years back, played a key role in an investigation few can forget—the notorious Hillside Strangler case, the sex slayings of 10 young women and girls in 1977 and 1978.

Salerno's latest quarry is described as a curly haired man with stained, widely gapped teeth who



KEN LUBAS / Los Angeles Times

Sgt. Frank Salerno

slips through unlocked doors and windows before dawn to attack his victims as they sleep. At least six killings and 15 rapes, beatings and kidnappings in the San Gabriel and

San Fernando valleys are being linked to the killer.

The many months spent in the late 1970s working on the Hillside Strangler case "is going to be a great advantage in working a case like this," Salerno said. "We've got other investigators who have also worked the Hillside case."

A key lesson has to do with the behavior of serial killers.

"Bianchi (Kenneth Bianchi, one of the two killers in the Hillside case) proved one thing, and that is: most serial murderers don't stop. They might relocate. They will kill again.

"I would expect he (the Valley Intruder) would again."

About 50 investigators from six local police agencies have been drawn into the task force established last week to track down the killer. The challenge of the task force will be to coordinate and keep track of the each of the thousands of slivers of information that could mean something important.

Please see COP, Page 19

COP: Veteran Detective Leads Search for Killer

Continued from Page 1

Already, investigators have received more than 1,000 leads and tips to check, ranging from the caller who sighted a stranger resembling a composite sketch of the killer to the tipster who named a friend as a possible suspect.

A major flaw in the massive Hillside Strangler probe was that too often such information was not shared and that some investigators were not fully informed, those close to the case said.

At the height of that exhaustive investigation, a task force that swelled to 162 officers from the Los Angeles and Glendale police departments, and the Sheriff's Department was established to track down the more than 10,000 clues that surfaced. Although the information gathered was fed into a computer, the data was not cross-indexed and obvious connections, at least in the case of Bianchi, were missed.

Bianchi, for example, was interviewed by investigators on separate occasions, but each time the questioning officers were unaware that Bianchi had crossed their path before.

"There were so many clue clowns, I think they called them," complained Katherine Mader, a defense attorney for Angelo Buono, the second Hillside Strangler killer. "Bianchi was interviewed three times by different law enforcement officers and gave statements that were never followed up on. They (the task force) would parcel out clues, but they wouldn't have enough coordination."

In the current investigation, all information is being cross-indexed,

County Posts \$10,000 Reward for Information on Intruder

The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors offered a \$10,000 reward Tuesday for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the so-called Valley Intruder, blamed for at least 6—and possibly as many as 13—slayings and at least 15 rapes, beatings and kidnappings in the San Gabriel and San Fernando valleys.

Supervisor Pete Schabarum, in whose district most of the crimes have occurred, called the attacks "a countywide problem" that has spread fear to every community.

Police and Sheriff's Department investigators say the killer enters homes through open windows and unlocked doors, attacking victims while they sleep.

The male suspect is described as thin, at least 6 feet tall, between 25 and 30 years of age, with brown curly hair. Witnesses say he has stained front teeth that are widely gapped.

Salerno said.

"You learn as you go along," he said of the Strangler investigation. "I think naturally, because of the amount of information that came in on that case, mistakes are going to be made. You learn from your mistakes."

"No doubt about it," Salerno added. "One of the major (improvements) is cross-indexing. We're trying to accomplish more correlation and exchange of information between the various agencies that are working. It's almost a daily contact between the investigators, and also meetings and briefings."

The fact that so many police agencies are involved poses problems that go beyond exchanging massive amounts of information.

"You have different methods of reporting, of handling evidence, of interviewing," Salerno said. "You have to try and overcome that to make sure nothing falls through."

But even with streamlined techniques, he said, the Intruder case may not be easily solved. He said the investigation may prove even more complex than other serial killings, including the Hillside Strangler case. The motivations of this killer are harder to pin down.

"Whenever you work a case, either a serial case or one that takes a lengthy period of time, the investigator develops in his own mind the type of individual he is looking for," Salerno said.

"This is a much more complex individual as far as trying to get a

handle on what kind of psychological profile he has. . . . The diversity makes it tough and then when you throw in random victims, which are the most difficult of cases to solve, you've really got your hands full."

Already, Salerno, his partner, Gil Carrillo, and the other 20 to 25 sheriff's investigators assigned to the case are working marathon shifts, sifting through myriad pieces of information.

Salerno is coming close to duplicating the seven-day weeks he worked for months during the Strangler investigation, but he says he is just one of many working those same grueling hours.

Investigators, he said, "are running out of shoe leather. . . . It's just good old-fashioned police work where people are going out knocking on doors and talking to people."

Exhausting hours or not, Salerno clearly loves the work and the challenge.

A solid six-footer, he looks and acts the part of a veteran detective. He is slow-talking, deliberate and cool-headed.

A family man, Salerno abandoned college for police work "way back in medieval times." It's a decision he says he has never regretted.

"What appealed to me is it would be an exciting job," he said. "You weren't tied to any one spot and you dealt with people. . . . I want to stay right here. I want this case solved soon."

Phone calls to police in the San Fernando Valley surge after the series of crimes. Story in Part II, Page 6.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

'Night Stalker' reward offered

A \$10,000 reward was posted Tuesday by Los Angeles County supervisors for the arrest and conviction of the so-called "Night Stalker," believed responsible for seven slayings and a dozen attacks during home burglaries since January.

In proposing the reward, Supervisor Pete Schabarum noted the Night Stalker's attacks have so far occurred in the San Gabriel, Pomona and San Fernando valleys — but argued the crimes are spreading a climate of fear.

There is currently a countywide effort by all law enforcement agencies to locate and arrest this person to stop the fear and terror he is presenting to the citizens of this county," Scharbarum said.

This is only the fourth such reward authorized by the board since Supervisor Kenneth Hahn started the practice by winning approval of a \$100,000 reward in 1977 involving the "Hillside Strangler" case.

The unrelated 1980 murders of a young woman and a teenage girl prompted the board to offer \$25,000 rewards in each case.

No one has so far collected on any of the county's reward offers.

"People are already afraid, even to walk the streets in the daytime, and now elderly women are afraid to be in their own homes at night," said Hahn.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

A-11 EVENING OUTLOOK
SANTA MONICA, CA

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Edition: Wednesday

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OFFERED

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(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Ganging up against Night Stalker

*Frightened
citizens gather;
supervisors offer
\$10,000 reward*

**By Chris Woodyard
and Timothy Carlson**
Herald staff writers

Saying Los Angeles County has become gripped with fear, the Board of Supervisors yesterday offered a \$10,000 reward for the elusive Night Stalker, who is linked to at least 14 recent attacks including seven murders.

Meanwhile, last night in Diamond Bar, site of the Night Stalker's last murder, frightened residents met for the first time since the slaying last Thursday seeking assurances that this terror will not return to their community. And citizens gathered last night in the San Fernando Valley as part of a national campaign to urge people to become involved in neighborhood watch programs.

In Los Angeles yesterday, Supervisor Pete Schabarum said, "It is important that (members of) this board do all we can to help in bringing the person or persons responsible for these senseless crimes to justice."

"Although the (killer) has been linked specifically to attacking residents in the San Gabriel, Pomona and San Fernando valleys, this is a countywide problem," Schabarum said.

Supervisor Kenneth Hahn, who joined in unanimous support for the reward, said that people now live in terror.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

A-1 HERALD EXAMINER
LOS ANGELES, CA

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"We're becoming... a fear city and county," Hahn said. "People are afraid to walk the streets in the daytime, and people, especially elderly women, are afraid to be in their homes at night."

The search for the Night Stalker has become the most intense joint police investigation since the Hillside Strangler case in the late 1970s. The sheriff's department is coordinating the investigation with five other police agencies in the suburban communities where the killer is believed to have struck.

More than 50 detectives from the six agencies are working on the case, said sheriff's department Capt. William R. Hinkle.

Authorities again received a substantial number of tips from telephone callers yesterday, but reported no new leads in the investigation.

"It's very, very busy," Hinkle said. "We have a multitude of things to check and review. We're getting a lot of people calling, saying they think they've seen the suspect."

The suspect is thought to be an Anglo or Hispanic, 25 to 30 years old and about 6 feet tall, based on victims' descriptions.

His most recent attack may have come Sunday when an 84-year-old woman was raped in her San Gabriel home, though sheriff's investigators have indicated some doubt as to whether it was the Night Stalker.

During the Diamond Bar meeting, many of the 50 people who gathered at the public library are terrified because they are close friends and neighbors of Elias Abowath, 35, who was the last person killed in this series of vicious crimes.

"These killings can't go on," said attorney Paul Horcher, one of the six members of the Diamond Bar municipal advisory council who called the meeting last night.

"The nights are hot. Our castles are all turning into jails. We want no more headlines like this," he said.

Horcher held up to the meeting a local newspaper with large headlines in red ink about the killing of Abowath on Pine Hill Lane.

Sheriff's Capt. Don Webster of the Industry station told the residents he is intensely concerned about these crimes.

"I drove by that house this afternoon," he said. "There I sat and pondered the same question. Why this house? Of all the houses here, what drew this person to this residence? It was a random selection, but the common thread with all the killings was the presence of an open window or an open door."

"If something seems strange to you call us," he pleaded. "I'd rather come out five or six times and meet a Fuller brush salesman or a TV repairman than miss a chance to catch this guy."

Webster told the people there to practice dialing 911 in the dark.

Don and Emelie Ledesma, neighbors of the Abowath family, said they have established a trust fund for the surviving wife and two children at a local Security Pacific Bank branch.

Don Ledesma's voice was laced with emotion when he recalled the reaction of Abowath's 3-year old son, Aamer.

"The little boy went to Bob Wilson's house and asked for help that morning," said Ledesma. "In his 3-year-old understanding he said

his parents weren't feeling well. We sat with the boy at his father's funeral. In his understanding, he thinks his father is sleeping."

Emelie said the neighborhood is stunned. "The shock of what happened — we still can't get over it," she said. "We can't sleep. We haven't been in our bedroom since that night. Now we have slumber parties in our neighborhood because we are all afraid."

Don added, "I want people to catch the guy, let's get back to living."

Emelie said, "My son, he's 17, and 6-foot-3 and 195 pounds, he won't go out. He sits in a chair with a baseball bat in his hands."

Bob Wilson, the neighbor who discovered the body after the little boy came to his house, said he and his neighbors have a gnawing fear. "What freedoms are there?" he asked. "You feel you have to be home before dark — and you don't sleep until it's light again. I've been exhausted at work. I come home at noon to check on the house."

Webster offered some advice: lock all windows and doors, install outdoor lighting, join a neighborhood watch, know what cars belong in the neighborhood and be aware.

About 50 miles west in Granada Hills, 50 residents saw an artist's sketch of the stalker during a meeting for "Lights On, Night Out."

Chuck Schwennesen, 69, said residents of this middle-class San Fernando Valley community will not be intimidated by the Night Stalker. "Our neighbors are concerned, yes, but we're not frightened to the point we'll give in," he said.

Residents also took the opportunity to plug Neighborhood Watch. Chuck Mason, co-chairman of the Granada Hills Neighborhood Watch, claimed the program was largely responsible for a 32 percent drop in crimes such as robbery, burglaries and assaults.

The Neighborhood Watch is a program where neighbors look after one another's homes and attend meetings to learn crime-prevention techniques.

Mason said the wave of crimes attributed to the Night Stalker makes neighborhood watches even more important.



Capt. Walt Mitchell displays Neighborhood Watch signs available from LAPD offices as part of crime-prevention program.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Some ways to make yourself safe from would-be intruders

Whether this recent spate of killings, rapes and assaults in the San Fernando and San Gabriel valleys is the work of one individual or a number of individuals, one fact remains alarmingly clear: Gone are the days when we can keep our doors and windows unlocked and still feel safe. But what are we supposed to do? Barricade ourselves in? Arm ourselves? Well, according to John Carroll, vice president of Wild Wing Productions, the maker of the video "Principles of Home Defense," we'd better do something, or else possibly suffer the consequences. Carroll, a reserve deputy sheriff for the last 2½ years, was interviewed by Herald staff writer Milton McGriff.

Question: When did you create the video "Principles of Home Defense," and why?

Carroll: Well, it was created by Drew Michaels. He had the idea. When he and I and Bill Keyes were going through the Sheriff's Academy, we were trying to be reserve sheriffs, we were all in the movie industry and we discussed the project, because a lot of the things we learned in the Sheriff's Academy we realized were going to be very valuable to us, not only as reserve sheriffs, but in our home lives as well. So we pursued the idea of creating a tape based on home defense.

Q: Essentially, what is the video?

A: It is a cassette designed to teach the average citizen how he can choose not to be a victim, and how he can defend himself, his family and his home. We teach a person what not to do, then what to do in handling an assailant in the home.

Q: What response have you had from law enforcement officials?

A: We heard from the LAPD that they are showing it in their neighborhood watch programs. The same thing with the sheriff's department. We are going to donate 21 tapes to the different stations and they are going to show it in what they call their community service slot, which is their equivalent of the Neighborhood Watch program.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

A-7 HERALD EXAMINER
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SAFE FROM WOULD-BE
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Q: How many law enforcement agencies are currently using your video?

A: I know the LAPD is, I think the San Fernando P.D. is. We have had some inquiries from a place in Illinois. It's something that we haven't really pursued at this stage, going after the P.D.s, but we will. I think the program is very pro-law enforcement.

Q: Have you shown the video to any neighborhood groups?

A: We haven't, but we have shown it to the L.A. Commission on Assaults Against Women, and to our bank, the Warner Bank in Woodland Hills. They were very impressed with the program and they asked us to come in early one Monday morning and show it to all of their employees.

Q: Does the video suggest that it's a good idea to have a handgun in the home?

A: We're not advocating handguns, and we're not saying not to use them. If a person decides he wants a handgun in the home, then the proper training and practice is essential.

Q: Some people think that a home is less safe with a handgun around, especially if there are children around.

A: That's an individual choice. Some people like to have a handgun around the home, a lot of people don't — either way is fine. It is an individual choice.

Q: Having a handgun around implies an awesome responsibility of properly caring for a weapon.

A: Well, if you are not going to get the proper training for a gun, and properly look after it, and practice, then I suggest that you don't get one. If you are going to make the decision that you are going to keep a gun in your house, and that is a big decision, then you'd better get the proper training, know how to handle it. Because if you don't, the chances are that the guy could take it off you.

Q: How many homes do have handguns now?

A: The last statistic I had was that there are over 60 million handguns in the United States. I would imagine a good guess is that 80 percent of those are for home protection.

Q: What suggestions do you have for home defense for the person who refuses to have a loaded gun in their home?

A: That's fine. But still have a home defense plan that if somebody does break into your home, they'll encounter a deadbolt on your bedroom door. That's the last line of defense. You can lock the door and they can't come in and hurt you. If they come in and steal something out of your house, that's fine. Let them take it. Police will get them later. But at least you are not going to get into a confrontation. If you can avoid a confrontation, do so. If they decide they want to attack you, then you should have some sort of defense or else you are going to be a victim.

That's where we come in with a very strong statement in our video which says that it is your choice to be a victim. You decide. If someone comes at you, it is your decision if you are going to take it lying down or if you are going to fight back. And we suggest that you fight back.

Q: How much would it cost to make the average home reasonably secure?

A: It can be done with an elaborate alarm system, or you can get these small portable alarms that fit on the door, and they cost only about \$40. You can, depending on how much security you want, spend from \$100 up to several thousand.

Q: The so-called Night Stalker is very much in the news. Most of his victims have had unlocked windows or doors. Does that surprise you?

A: No. There are a lot of people who just live in the it-can't-happen-to-me syndrome. That's a wrong attitude. You have to make a plan. It's like people saying there's not going to be an earthquake. In 1971, there was a hell of an earthquake. People say, "There's not going to be a fire," and there are fires all the time. The same thing with crime. And if you go through life thinking

it only happens to someone else, when it happens to you, it is too late. You should take precautions. Anybody who leaves their doors and windows unlocked at night is asking for trouble.

Q: What does a reserve deputy sheriff do?

A: Basically, we work in different fields. Some work on patrol. At times, we are assigned to the photo reserve company. We are assigned, mainly because of our expertise in the movie industry, to make officer survival training films. We take an incident where maybe a deputy sheriff was killed and maybe it was his own fault that he was killed — for some reason, he made a mistake. So we make a film pointing out what actually happened, and then we show what he should have done. We show that to all the cadets going through the academy, all the officers. It is also sold to different law enforcement agencies across the country, hopefully so that other officers will not make the same mistake.

Q: Are reserve deputies volunteers?

A: Yes. Strictly volunteers. We are paid a dollar a year. On average, the deputy reserve would put in between 400 and 600 hours a year.

Q: Is there any advice that you would give to people in the Los Angeles area to protect themselves against this so-called Night Stalker?

A: Lock your doors and windows at night. Make, in your own mind, a defense plan that if you do hear a noise in your house, decide what you are going to do, because if you don't, it's too late.

— edited by Mitchell Fink

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Name-droppers and Night Stalkers

Yet another grisly nickname has entered the civic vocabulary. The Night Stalker is in our midst. He started out in the middle of last week as a "bedroom intruder." That was after the shooting of a couple in Northridge.

The next day, following an attack in Diamond Bar, he was a "home invader," and after that a "night prowling killer."

By Friday the police had speculated that one man might be responsible for as many as 30 such incidents currently under investigation. At that point the man, assuming there really is only one man behind all this horror, took on a new and more ominous identity. The Herald dubbed him the Night Stalker in its front-page headline, and over a map showing the locations of 11 assaults and murders in the San Fernando Valley and the San Gabriel Valley, we ran the headline, "L.A. NIGHT STALKER'S DEADLY TRAIL."

That made it official.

Other people and agencies have tried other names since then. Channel 4 calls him the Walk-In Murderer, which doesn't have much of a lilt. For a time some cops were calling him the 818 Murderer, due to the fact — give thanks for extremely small favors — that he hasn't killed anyone in the 213 area.

City News Service's Norman Jacoby, the dean of Los Angeles police reporters and a man who has named several of these monsters in the past, dubbed this one the Valley Invader. That's not bad, but it makes him sound like some new and unpromising USFL team. Here at the Herald, reporters and editors also toyed with the Welcome Mat Murderer, the Back Door Man and still another high-concept monicker, the Midnight Rambler.

None of them could top the name that had topped Friday's story, however. And yesterday our story went with The Night Stalker. So did one distributed by United Press International. The Associated Press used Night Stalker in its identifying slug, and Paul Harvey, following the Herald's lead, did a Night Stalker piece in yesterday's broadcast.

What's to be said in favor of Night Stalker is its inherent melodrama — i.e. its potential for selling papers — and its show-business lineage. ("The Night Stalker" was a TV series in which a reporter played by Darrin McGavin stalked killers who killed at night, including a vampire and a monster attracted to Las Vegas showgirls.)

What's to be said against it is the same thing that's to be said against all such melodramatic and often riveting nicknames for mass murderers: their potential for creating, sustaining and then intensifying a climate of fear.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

A-3 HERALD EXAMINER
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It happens every time the press gets hold of a prolonged murder case.

Remember Jack the Ripper?

Mercifully no: we're all too young for that, though some of us can remember Laird Cregar playing the essence of the part in "The Lodger," and others of us thought that Jack-the-Ripping was high art when Stephen Sondheim put it to laughs and keening music in "Sweeney Todd."

But who can forget, thanks to vivid phrasemaking, the Black Dahlia case, the Red Light Bandit, Son of Sam, the High-Rise Rapist, the Cat Rapist, the Zodiac Killers, the Freeway Killer, the Trailside Slayer, the Sunset Strip Killer, the Trash Bag Murderers, the Alphabet Bomber, the Hillside Strangler, the Skid Row Slasher and the Skid Row Stabber?

I talked to Norman Jacoby yesterday about these names and the effect they're apt to have on our psyches. He has a vested interest in some of them, of course. Just as the Herald named the Night Stalker, Norman, who recently celebrated his 50th anniversary in journalism, named, among many others, the Skid Row Slasher and the Hillside Strangler.

"I think 'Hillside Strangler' was as good a name as any," he said with perfect aplomb. "Even though it turned out to be 'stranglers' instead of 'strangler.' I think it was after the fourth murder that I came up with that one, because everything at that point with one exception seemed to have happened on hillsides. And by the way, that one exception is the crime they never did hook on them."

So much for pride of workmanship. But doesn't bestowing such sensationalist names on such unspeakable lowlife give them an importance they don't deserve?

"Maybe so, but you still have to call them something. You need something that will stand out in a headline, or on TV, so the public will know what you're talking about."

That was the answer, I realized. You have to call them something. You cannot, day after day and week after week, write headlines or news stories about the Unidentified Person Who, During the Hours of Darkness, Gains Access To Homes Through Unlocked Windows Or Doors.

Calling the person the Night Stalker may be sensationalizing the case, and scaring readers all over town. But the person does stalk at night, and you have to call him something. Calling him the Night Stalker may, at the very least, scare citizens into locking their windows and doors. ■

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Callers bombard police with tips and questions on the Night Stalker

But authorities say they're no closer to finding killer

By Mark S. Warnick
Herald staff writer

Law enforcement officers continuing their search for a brutal serial killer again were bombarded with telephone calls from helpful, frightened residents yesterday, but authorities said they were no closer to finding the man who has terrorized parts of Los Angeles County.

"The tips haven't led to anything, as of yet," said Sheriff's Capt. William R. Hinkle.

Six agencies, including the sheriff's department, are searching for the so-called Night Stalker, who enters darkened homes through unlocked doors or windows. The man has been linked to at least 14 recent attacks, including seven murders.

He could be responsible for as many as 30 attacks since February, most recently the rape and beating of an 84-year-old woman in San Gabriel early Sunday, according to police.

The sheriff's department's Temple City station, in whose jurisdiction Sunday's attack occurred, was among the offices flooded with calls.

"It's been quite hectic," Lt. Volker Niewisch said. "The concern is very real."

Many callers have told authorities that they believe they have spotted the suspect. Others have asked for advice on how to secure

their homes and how to comfort frightened relatives, Niewisch said.

"We had one woman who was unable to calm down her daughter, who is 19 and lives at home," Niewisch said. "All we can do is tell people the basics. Keep your doors and windows locked, even if it's warm and uncomfortable and you need to use a fan or air conditioning."

In Monterey Park, where police are investigating several attacks that may be linked to the Night Stalker, officers yesterday reported heightened awareness throughout the community. Some residents are staying overnight at friends' homes and some children are sleeping in their parents' bedroom, said David Riser, a reserve officer with the Monterey Park Police Department.

In the approximately 30 cases being investigated, no pattern has as yet emerged regarding weapons, victims or days of attack. The only common denominators are that the suspect entered each house through an unlocked door or window and that all of the residences had poor, if any, outside lighting.

A composite drawing of the suspect, based on descriptions provided by surviving victims, has been distributed throughout Southern California. The killer was described as white, possibly Hispanic, age 25 to 30, about 6 feet tall, with dark, curly hair and gapped, very discolored teeth.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

A-7 HERALD EXAMINER
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CALLERS BOMBARD POLICE WITH
TIPS AND QUESTIONS ON
NIGHT STALKER

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Latest Attack Is Not Believed Tied to 'Valley Intruder'

By DAVID FREED, *Times Staff Writer*

The rape of an 84-year-old San Gabriel woman early Sunday may not have been the work of a late-night intruder being sought by a police task force in a county-wide series of slayings and assaults, authorities believe.

Despite initial speculation that the intruder had struck again, there were few similarities between Sunday's incident and earlier attacks in which people have been shot, stabbed, raped and bludgeoned in their homes, Los Angeles County Sheriff Sherman Block said Monday.

The elderly woman's description of her assailant, as well as methods the attacker used, "lead us to believe that it may not, and probably is not, related" to the six or more murders and as many as 13 other non-fatal assaults linked to one person, the sheriff said.

Many of the incidents—dating back to February—have taken place in the San Gabriel and San Fernando valleys, leading Block to suggest Monday that the man they

are seeking be dubbed the "Valley Intruder." Others in the media searching for an appropriate moniker have labeled the wanted man the "Valley Invader," "Walk-in Killer" and "Night Stalker."

Whatever his label, the assailant gains entry through open windows and unlocked doors to attack sleeping victims. Nearly all of the residences where attacks have occurred were poorly lighted and unfenced.

Investigators from the Sheriff's Department and the Los Angeles, Arcadia, Glendale, Monrovia and Monterey Park police departments are participating in a manhunt that Block described as "far more complex" than that mounted in the Hillside Strangler murders of the late 1970s. Block said the six-agency task force is "growing every day" and probably now numbers more than 50 detectives.

The case thus far has baffled investigators, who invariably depend on a killer's *modus operandi*—a consistent pattern of behavior—to discover clues and make arrests. The pattern often involves a killer's preference for a particular type of weapon or victim.

"That's why this case is so mind-boggling," Block said. "There's no consistency at all."

Even in those cases where vic-

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II-1 LOS ANGELES TIMES
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BELIEVED TIED TO "VALLEY
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tims have been shot, a different gun apparently has been used, the sheriff noted.

The essential links between each episode have been the assailant's method of entry and the physical description offered by survivors and witnesses. The intruder has been described and depicted in a composite drawing as a thin man between 6 feet and 6 feet 2 inches tall and between 25 and 30 years of age. He has discolored front teeth that are widely gapped and curly brown hair.

In Sunday's incident, the elderly woman was attacked at about 5:30 a.m. in her one-story house. She did not get a good look at her assailant because he was wearing a mask, Block said. However, she described the man as considerably shorter than the individual wanted in the other crimes, he said.

The woman's description of his height—and the fact that the attacker did not exhibit a weapon, wore a mask and did not beat her—led investigators to discount the possibility that the crime was committed by the same person being sought by the task force, Block said.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Task force continues search for Night Stalker

Residents arm selves, bombard police with calls

By John Crust
Herald staff writer

A police task force is working over the weekend following leads in an effort to nab the deadly night prowler who has been stalking the San Fernando and San Gabriel valleys.

"There's nothing new," said sheriff's Sgt. Clinton Dillon. "We're following up on different clues, different phone calls with there is something like a description or anything."

The vicious killer, who enters darkened homes at night through unlocked doors or windows, is suspected of 14 attacks including seven murders. Authorities note that the prowler may be linked to as many as 30 such incidents.

Victims have ranged in age from 16 to their 80s. The latest victim was Elyas Abowath, 35, of Diamond Bar. He died Thursday morning from a gunshot wound to the head. Abowath's wife, Sakina, 28, was beaten.

The sheriff's department and Los Angeles, Glendale, Monrovia, Arcadia and Monterey Park police are investigating the attacks. The police hunt is the largest local law enforcement investigation since the Hillside Strangler killings in 1977 and 1978, when at least 10 young women were kidnapped, raped and murdered.

Meanwhile, police have been bombarded with telephone calls from frightened residents seeking advice to protect themselves and from others who believe they've seen the killer.

"We're getting the type of call: 'I saw somebody last week looking like him,'" said Dillon, adding that he had received 40 telephone calls in a three-hour period.

"People are scared," said a Monterey

Park police dispatcher. "People want to know how they can secure their homes."

Concerned residents have been arming themselves since the string of attacks began in February, stretching from Northridge, 27 miles northwest of downtown Los Angeles, to Diamond Bar, about 30 miles east of downtown.

"My contacts with people on the street show concern is an understatement," said Monterey Park police Sgt. George Hicks. "The phone calls have been increasing. People want to know everything they can know about how the crimes are occurring."

Within the past five weeks, attendance at the Santa Anita Firing Range in Monrovia has jumped 150 percent.

"We've noticed the increase in attendance at firearms classes and private classes," said manager Ralph Davis. "Thirty-five percent are females. Before it was strictly a male stronghold."

"People are frightened," he said. "They're coming here because they are afraid."

Investigators say the suspect enters the home through an unlocked window or sliding glass door and immediately seeks the sleeping occupants. The crimes have occurred in houses with poor, if any, outside lighting. Police believe the man prowls neighborhoods looking for homes with easy access.

The suspect believed to be linked to at least 14 attacks is described as white, possibly Hispanic, age 25 to 30, about 6 feet tall, with dark, curly hair and gapped, very discolored teeth.

Police said yesterday that Mary Rubenstein, the 32-year-old woman found dead in her Canoga Park apartment Friday night, is not linked to the series of slayings. The woman's husband, Gary Robert Rubenstein, 29, is being sought.

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(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

What makes this killer different

*Serial murder experts
piece together puzzle*

By Annette Haddad
Herald staff writer

Some of the nation's top serial murder experts — including those who were involved in the notorious Hillside Strangler and Atlanta Child Murders cases — agree that the killer terrorizing parts of Los Angeles County is unlike any they've ever come across.

"I don't know another case like this," said Rex Beaber, a doctor of psychology at the UCLA School of Medicine. "The choice of victims is opportunity-based. Different from a serial killer who knows exactly the kind of person he wants to kill."

What is known about this recent killer is that he attacks his victims at night by entering their homes through an unlocked sliding glass door or window. In some cases, the victims (men and women) have been shot, in other cases the female victims have been raped and beaten. Sometimes the homes have been ransacked and burglarized, and sometimes nothing is disturbed.

One man is believed to be responsible for at least 14 recent attacks, including seven murders. He might be responsible for as many as 30 such incidents, authorities said.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

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According to some psychological experts, the typical serial killer, unlike this one, does not randomly stage his attacks, but carefully plans who his victims will be based on some clear method.

"This is different than the typical case," said Richard G. Rappaport of Northwestern University's School of Medicine. "The serial killer kills a (certain type of) person to get rid of a negative quality in himself," he said. The reason, according to Rappaport, is so the killer can in his own mind rid himself of particular traits. This, according to another expert, is why the serial killer is never satiated — because he can never rid himself of those qualities.

Rappaport was the expert witness in the trials of John Wayne Gacy, who was convicted in 1980 for the murders of 33 young men in the Chicago area, and Wayne Williams, who was linked to 31 Atlanta murders of young black men but convicted of only two in 1982. He is currently working on a book based on statistical data of serial-killing worldwide.

Beaber said that the random quality of the attacks might be the behavior of a chronic schizophrenic who aimlessly wanders around the area and commits a crime wherever he ends up.

"If he is a wandering schizophrenic," Beaber said, "and if he is not caught at the scene of the crime, then he won't get caught."

However, Rappaport said that a schizophrenic's condition is too disorganized to commit a crime like murder. "And murder is a very organized crime," he said.

There is greater fear among people with a killer like this with no structure to his behavior. Rappaport said, adding that the typical serial murderer is not interested in robbery and usually does not murder his victim with a gun.

The typical serial murderer is usually a white male in his 20s or



Victims' description of killer includes prominently gapped, discolored teeth.

"If he is a wandering schizophrenic, and if he is not caught at the scene of the crime, then he won't get caught."

Rex Beaber
doctor of psychology at UCLA

30s. He or she appears very intelligent and usually has some kind of gimmick that attracts victims. The serial murderer will appear superficially normal and healthy, Rappaport said.

Unlike the case of Kenneth Bianchi, who was sentenced to life imprisonment in the Hillside Strangler case involving the murders of at least 10 young women and was diagnosed as a sexual psychopath, the motivation for the recent rash of murders appears less clear.

"Obviously, the motive is imbued with power because he breaks in and takes control of the situation," said Saul Faerstein, a doctor of psychiatry at the UCLA School of Medicine, who examined Bianchi and was the prosecution's expert witness in the trial of Bianchi's cousin and accomplice, Angelo Buono.

"But he may be a sadist in the case of the rapes, or it may be that sex is less important than power. It's hard to say what the motive is."

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Residents brace for new attack by Night Stalker

By Mark S. Warnick
Herald staff writer

Frantic residents throughout Los Angeles County purchased guns and home-security alarms, called for neighborhood meetings and deluged authorities with questions and tips as the search continued yesterday for a vicious serial killer authorities fear will strike again.

The suspect, who enters darkened homes at night through unlocked doors or windows, has been linked to at least 14 recent attacks, including seven murders. He might be responsible for as many as 30 such incidents, authorities said.

The wave of attacks has prompted the largest local law-enforcement investigation since the grisly Hillside Strangler killings in 1977 and 1978, when at least 10 young women were kidnapped, raped and murdered.

"At a comparable stage of the investigation, it may be more extensive than the Hillside Strangler was, and it's growing every day," Los Angeles County Sheriff Sherman Block said yesterday.

In addition to the sheriff's department, five police departments — Los Angeles, Glendale, Monrovia, Arcadia and Monterey Park — are investigating the attacks.

"People are more worried about this than the Hillside Strangler case," said Officer George Willoth of the LAPD Devonshire division in the San Fernando Valley. "This guy is going into your house. This guy is more spooky."

The string of attacks began in February and includes incidents across the county, primarily in the San Gabriel and San Fernando valleys. It involves at least a dozen murders stretching from Northridge, 27 miles northwest of downtown Los Angeles, to Diamond Bar,

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

A-1 HERALD EXAMINER
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ATTACK BY NIGHT STALKER

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FBI — LOS ANGELES	

Fear Continued from A-1

about 30 miles east of downtown.

In each of the approximately 30 cases, the suspect entered the house through an unlocked window or sliding glass door and immediately sought out the sleeping occupants. All of the crimes occurred in houses that had poor, if any, outside lighting, leading authorities to believe the suspect prowls neighborhoods looking for homes with easy access.

"We believe the attacks are random, that there's no focusing on an individual or a particular house," Block said.

While a composite drawing of the suspect has been made based on descriptions provided by surviving victims, a psychological profile of the killer continues to be developed. At a press conference yesterday — his second in two days — Block described the suspect as "some kind of sadistic individual."

"There's nothing to indicate he won't strike again," he added.

Concern about the violent crime spree heightened Thursday after the sheriff's department held a news conference following an attack early that day in Diamond Bar in which a Pakistani emigre was shot to death and his wife beaten.

Publicity about the crime wave has prompted grave concern among residents, but authorities said notifying citizens was necessary and homeowners' responses justified.

"We're trying to avoid making any comments that will generate hysteria, but we have a very distinct obligation to the community to alert them to what's going on," Block said yesterday. "More than anything else, we want them to undertake certain precautionary measures for their own safety."

Residents were urged to lock all windows and doors, install adequate outside lighting and alert authorities immediately to any suspicious behavior.

The suspect believed connected to at least 14 cases was described as

white, possibly Hispanic, age 25 to 30, about 6-feet tall, with dark, curly hair and gapped, very discolored teeth. The composite drawing of the man has prompted scores of telephone calls to agencies throughout the area.

"Our phones have been ringing off the hook," said Cadet Jeff Walker of the Arcadia Police Department, which is investigating two murders possibly linked to the suspect. "Everybody thinks they've met him, had dinner with him, dated him or seen him parked outside their house."

The sheriff's department reported some of its stations handled 300 percent more telephone calls than average yesterday. Some stations, especially those in areas where attacks have occurred, received nearly 100 calls an hour at times yesterday, said sheriff's Capt. William R. Hinkle. Many of the calls were from residents interested in forming neighborhood-watch groups, Hinkle said.

Despite the inquiries and tips, officials received no information yesterday that led them any closer to identifying the suspect, authorities said.

Businesses selling home security alarms reported brisk business in response to the attacks. Spokesmen for Baker's Hardware in Glendale and Westec Security's Santa Monica office both said sales have increased in recent weeks.

Gun sales were up in many areas, along with registration for pistol-training classes, according to shop owners. At the Santa Anita Firing Range in Monrovia, attendance at such classes increased 150 percent in the past two weeks, said co-owner Mark Semain.

"One lady called and said the suspect hit her neighbor two doors away in Arcadia," Semain said. "She was scared to death. She said, 'I want to buy a gun. I need lessons. Today.' I told her we have a lesson on the weekend, but she said she couldn't wait, so I arranged a private lesson," he said.

At Diamond Bar Guns, manager Jim Bray reported a 10 percent increase in sales in recent weeks.

Emphasizing his belief that citizens have a right to possess firearms in their homes, Block urged gunowners to "understand the legal and moral consequences of that ownership" and to "maintain the weapons so they don't become the vehicle for some personal tragedy."

He foresees the likelihood, however, that the suspect may meet his end at the hands of an alerted and aroused resident.

"With the heightened awareness and concern, I think it's possible some homeowner may blow him away or some big dog may eat him up," Block said.

Many local law enforcement agencies, including the sheriff's department, have beefed up their patrols. The sheriff's department refused to release numbers on how many officers were working on the investigation, saying only that some deputies have been taken out of specialized units and temporarily assigned to full-time patrol duty.

Wide differences in the attacks have baffled investigators searching for a motive or strong link. The victims have ranged in age from 16 to in their 80s, had a variety of ethnic backgrounds and were assaulted with weapons ranging from guns to knives to blunt instruments.

Authorities urged residents not to rationalize any suspicious behavior. On July 7, when Joyce Nelson

was shot to death in her Monterey Park home, several unusual incidents were ignored by neighbors — a car with a loud muffler speeding away, a woman screaming, rustling in the bushes and a dog barking — said Lt. Joseph Santero of the Monterey Park Police Department.

While the spree of violent killings and seeming randomness of the attacks has raised anxiety among homeowners, Block said yesterday that authorities felt more frustrated over the absence of leads than pressured about finding the suspect.

"We know that somewhere there's a key to the identity of this individual," he said. "We're racing against time trying to find that key."

Herald staff writers Timothy Carlson and David Cloud contributed to this story.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Stalker car found in L.A.

Stolen wagon tied to attack in Mission Viejo

By Leslie Guevarra
OF THE EXAMINER STAFF

Los Angeles police today found the orange Toyota station wagon believed to have been used by the so-called Night Stalker killer in his weekend attack in Southern California.

The discovery of the vehicle shortly after 7 a.m. resulted from an anonymous telephone tip from "a helpful citizen," according to police Cmdr. William Booth.

Booth said the station wagon — stolen Saturday evening from L.A.'s Chinatown section — was found abandoned in the city's Ramparts district.

Authorities believe the Night Stalker used the vehicle late Saturday night to get to the community of Mission Viejo, where he broke into a home, shot a man three times in the head and then raped the man's fiancée.

The shooting victim, Bill Carns, survived but is in critical condition in an Orange County hospital.

Meanwhile, Los Angeles authorities said they are checking whether four kidnappings and molestings of

children are linked to the crimes of the Night Stalker, who is believed responsible for 14 murders and at least 20 vicious sexual assaults in California, including one slaying in San Francisco.

The four kidnappings occurred within 20 miles of one another in northeast Los Angeles and in the adjacent San Gabriel Valley, where the first killing attributed to the Night Stalker occurred March 17.

The first of the four abductions was March 20 in the Eagle Rock area, five miles north of Los Angeles, said police spokesman Cmdr. William Booth.

The 8-year-old girl was kidnapped from her bed and apparently sexually abused for several hours before being released, Booth said.

Asked whether the child's description of her assailant matched that of the Night Stalker, Booth said: "The description is close enough."

Last month, Detective Louis Castillo said investigators believed the same man who kidnapped the Eagle Rock girl also broke into an Arcadia residence on June 27, took a 6-year-old girl from her bed and molested her.

And police say two other Southern California kidnapping-molestation cases may also be related.

The news came as San Francisco Police Chief Cornelius Murphy announced that police in Northern and Southern California have launched a

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1 S.F. Examiner
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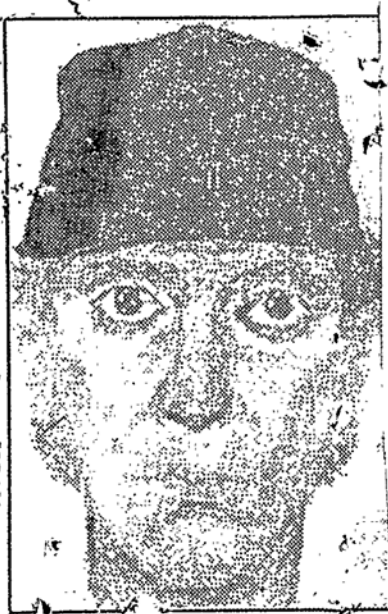
n phase of the Night Stalker manhunt: Thousands of "wanted" bulletins of the suspect will be plastered in gas stations of seven major oil companies across the state this week.

The Night Stalker, who police say steals cars and uses the freeways, is "going to have to buy gas somewhere," Murphy said.

Arco, Chevron, Exxon, Mobil, Shell, Texaco and Union Oil have agreed to participate, said Officer Linda Witcop of San Francisco.

Police hunting the Night Stalker are trying to work out a similar agreement with convenience store chains, she said.

Examiner news services contributed to this report.



'Night Stalker' — last time, he wore a cap

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Cops offer tips to keep burglars out

By Leslie Guevarra
OF THE EXAMINER STAFF

Deluged by calls from residents who are terrified of "Night Stalker" attacks, police performed a security check on a randomly selected Potrero Hill home and demonstrated how easy it is to break into a typical San Francisco house.

In a swift, noiseless move, Crime Prevention Officer Henry Friedlander yesterday popped a glass sliding door from the house, then removed a sliding window with equal ease.

The 29-year-old resident of the two-story pseudo-Victorian gaped at Friedlander and the sliding door he held in hands.

"It's that easy? Great. Now I really don't feel safe," she said. The woman asked to remain anonymous.

Police staged the security survey for reporters as part of a home safety campaign that has increased fivefold since the Night Stalker's Aug. 17 attack near Lake Merced.

As a public service, the Police Department routinely performs free security surveys for city residents.

"We usually do four a day, now we're doing 20 a day," said Crime Prevention Lt. Mike Hebel. "It's be-

cause of the Night Stalker. We're not drumming this up, people are really frightened."

Project SAFE, a neighborhood watch group that works closely with the Police Department, also has been bombarded by calls from residents who want to "Night Stalker-proof" their homes.

"We've been swamped," said Suzanne London, program coordinator for Safety Awareness For Everyone. "It seems to me the general tone of the people is panic."

"The immediate result they want is a security survey (performed) on their house. A lot of the basics of securing a home is plain common sense."

The Police Department discourages residents from arming themselves and is somewhat neutral on the subject of installing burglar alarms.

"Buying an alarm would be the ultimate thing in home security," said Friedlander. "But your generic San Francisco-type house can also be secured by spending \$50 to \$75 at a hardware store."

The sum would cover the price for a sturdy single-cylinder deadbolt lock (about \$25 to \$50) and the cost of metal dowels, screws and nails. The latter are used to fashion makeshift "locks" on windows and sliding doors.

Police also urge residents to join the SAFE neighborhood vigilance program by calling 673-SAFE.

The Police Department's Night Stalker hot line is 553-1606.

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San Francisco, Ca.

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(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Night Stalker Suspect Tied to '84 Killing

**Fingerprint on Screen
Where Glassell Park
Woman, 79, Was Slain**

By DAVID FREED,
Times Staff Writer

Night Stalker suspect Richard Ramirez has been linked through a fingerprint to the June, 1984, slaying of a 79-year-old woman in Glassell Park, Los Angeles Police Chief Daryl F. Gates said Wednesday. The murder is the earliest yet attributed to the accused killer.

"We have discovered that he is potentially responsible for the murder of Jennie Vincow," Gates told a news conference. "We have identified Richard Ramirez's fingerprint from a screen. He apparently entered through an open window. . . ." Gates' disclosure came as authorities in Los Angeles and San Francisco were examining dozens of unsolved slayings to see if any can be linked to Ramirez, the Night Stalker suspect to whom 15 homicides have now been attributed.

Files From 1981 Checked

Gates said his detectives are checking crime files "as far back as 1981," when local law enforcement officers initially encountered Ramirez.

Ramirez is believed to have first arrived in California in 1981, when he was arrested by Pasadena police on a petty theft charge.

The 25-year-old drifter from El Paso subsequently compiled a sizable arrest record in the Los Angeles area involving mostly vehicle and drug-related violations, authorities have indicated.

"We've been looking at a wide variety of crimes that might fit his trademarks," Gates said. One of the cases under scrutiny was the one revealed Wednesday, the throat-slashing death of Vincow.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

I-1 LOS ANGELES TIMES
LOS ANGELES, CA

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TIED TO '84 KILLING

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Shooting in Rosemead

Police earlier speculated that the first Stalker killing occurred March 17, when 34-year-old Dayle Okazaki was shot to death in her Rosemead condominium.

In San Francisco, detectives Wednesday began combing through files on each of more than 60 unsolved murders dating to early 1983, said Lt. George Kowalski, head of the San Francisco Police Department's Homicide Division.

"We feel Mr. Ramirez may have been in San Francisco (for visits) at least beginning in early 1983," Kowalski said.

Seeking to pinpoint the dates of Ramirez's visits, police were also checking welfare rolls in San Francisco. Kowalski said that Ramirez applied for welfare in California,

but it is not known if he received payments.

Meanwhile, Gates disclosed that Los Angeles officers had stopped Ramirez at least twice in the months before his arrest Saturday in East Los Angeles.

Gates said the first stop was made by a motorcycle officer in the department's Northeast Division on June 15. The officer pulled Ramirez over on suspicion of driving a stolen car. Ramirez fled on foot and avoided capture.

The second incident occurred Aug. 26 when Central Division officers stopped Ramirez on a motorcycle for a minor violation, cited him and let him go.

The August incident came one day after an attack on a Mission Viejo couple that has been linked to the Night Stalker and weeks after a composite drawing of the Stalker suspect had been widely circulated.

"In the first (stop) he ran," Gates said of the June incident. "In the second (stop) there was no recognition on the part of the officers. They simply wrote him up on a traffic violation."

'Difficult to Fault Officers'

"It's difficult to fault the officers," Gates said, adding that the Stalker composite produced by the Police Department was not particularly accurate.

Ramirez was arraigned Tuesday in Los Angeles Municipal Court on a single murder count and seven other charges stemming from two late-night assaults in early May in the San Gabriel Valley. He is being held in a maximum-security section of the Los Angeles County Central Jail.

He also is charged with one murder in San Francisco, that of accountant Peter Pan, 66, who was shot through the head on Aug. 17. Pan's wife, Barbara, remains in critical condition with a gunshot wound in the head.

Besides the Pan killing and the 13 other slayings already attributed to Ramirez, detectives are holding him "potentially responsible"

for the Vincow playing, Gates said Wednesday.

Her body was found by her son, who lived above her ground-floor apartment at 3330 Chapman St., just south of Glendale's Forest Lawn Memorial Park. Her throat had been slashed, and she had been stabbed repeatedly.

Her attacker had apparently removed a mesh screen and slipped in through an open window, Gates said.

Police investigating the murder scene discovered a single fingerprint on the screen but were unable to immediately determine the identity of the assailant. Gates said investigators were hampered by the Police Department's lack of a computerized, "single fingerprint system" through which partial or single prints can be quickly identified.

Only after Ramirez's arrest and the obtaining of a full set of prints from him were investigators able to manually match his prints with the one found on Vincow's window screen.

In San Francisco, police said they are closely studying at least four homicides that fit the Stalker's general pattern—the slayings were committed late at night by an attacker who entered through an open window or door.

On Feb. 21, police discovered the mutilated bodies of Christina Caldwell, 58, and her sister, Mary, 70. They were stabbed dozens of times.

A coroner's report said a window of their ransacked flat was left open. Bloody fingerprints, palm prints and shoe prints were left behind, although Kowalski said most of the prints turned out to be those of neighbors.

Another slaying being checked is that of Masataka Kobayashi, 45, part owner and chef of Masa's, a fashionable restaurant on Nob Hill, Kowalski said.

The fourth killing involved Edward F. Wildgans, 29, who was shot June 2 through the right temple by a late-night intruder. He died two days later. His girlfriend fought off the attacker.

Wildgans was killed by a small-caliber,

copper-jacketed bullet, the coroner's report said. Several other Night Stalker victims were shot with small-caliber weapons, according to authorities.

Los Angeles police confirmed Wednesday that they have recovered a pistol believed used by Ramirez in at least one slaying. The .22-caliber weapon was discovered in Tijuana, but detectives would not disclose how it was found.

However, officials from the three major police agencies in the Mexican border town said that no one from their agencies had recovered a pistol thought to belong to Ramirez, nor had they turned any weapons over to Los Angeles investigators.

Meanwhile, police continued to search for another gun that they believe Ramirez had and dropped while being pursued Saturday.

Area Combed for Pistol

About 40 Los Angeles County sheriff's cadets using metal detectors combed the area around 8th and Mott streets in Boyle Heights on Wednesday for the small pistol but found no trace of it, said Deputy Lynda Edmonds, a sheriff's spokeswoman.

Several miles away, another 20 cadets conducted a similar search of 200 square yards bordering the York Avenue on-ramp to the northbound Glendale Freeway in the Glassell Park area, apparently searching for evidence relating to the Night Stalker murders or related assaults.

The cadets recovered six "articles" of interest to investigators, who would not indicate the nature of the discoveries.

In another development Wednesday, Orange County prosecutors did an about-face and decided to wait, perhaps for several weeks, before filing their own charges against Ramirez.

The accused Night Stalker is suspected of shooting a 29-year-old man in the head and raping his fiancée on Aug. 25 in Mission Viejo.

The shooting victim, Bill Carns, remains in serious but stable condition in Mission Community Hospital.

Orange County Chief Deputy Dist. Atty. James Enright had said that his office expected to file charges against Ramirez on Wednesday. But Wednesday morning, the chief deputy changed his position and said Orange County Sheriff's Department investigators will not be ready to present their case to the district attorney's office for two weeks, mainly because they are awaiting results of scientific tests.

Meanwhile, Los Angeles County Public Defender Wilbur F. Littlefield named Deputy Public Defender Allen R. Adashek, 42, a 16-year

veteran of the office, to represent Ramirez in the Los Angeles case.

The deputy public defender said he talked with Ramirez for about an hour Wednesday afternoon at the Los Angeles County Jail but declined to describe the meeting or Ramirez's state of mind.

Ramirez has not yet entered pleas to the eight felony counts filed against him in Los Angeles on Tuesday.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

A-1 HERALD EXAMINER
ANGELES, CA
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Stalker linked to more attacks

STALKER LINKED TO MORE
ATTACKS

Character:

or

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Submitting Office: Los Angeles

Indexing:

Crime spree began last summer, say authorities

By Mark S. Warnick
and Andy Furillo
Herald staff writers

The first fingerprint of Richard Ramirez found at the site of a murder has led authorities to link the Night Stalker suspect to the June 1984 slaying of an Eagle Rock woman.

The new evidence indicates the accused killer's series of assaults began at least eight months sooner than previously thought, according to authorities.

Los Angeles police Chief Daryl F. Gates, who announced the discovery yesterday, said it is "quite likely" Ramirez could have been identified at the time of last summer's murder if his department owned a state-of-the-art computer fingerprint system.

"It's incredible we don't have that kind of technique," Gates said.

The prints were found nearly 14 months ago on a window screen at the apartment of 79-year-old Jennie Vincow, who was slashed to death by an intruder.

The discovery has prompted investigators to re-examine unsolved murders, rapes and other crimes dating so far back as 1981, when Ramirez was believed to have arrived in Los Angeles from his home town of El Paso, Mex.

252B-1-81

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
SEP 05 1985	
FBI - LOS ANGELES	

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It also led police to wonder whether Ramirez may have been involved in untold other crimes.

"I would think you don't simply commit a murder, lie dormant and then commit a series," Gates said.

Ramirez, a 25-year-old drifter, is suspected of at least 15 slayings from Orange County to San Francisco. He has been charged with two killings so far — the May 14 murder of William Doi in Monterey Park and the Aug. 17 murder of Peter Pan in San Francisco.

At an afternoon news conference, Gates said the fingerprint wasn't matched to Ramirez sooner because his department lacks state-of-the-art computer equipment.

The department has requested a \$6 million computer to replace its cumbersome card-index files, Gates said, but city budget authorities oppose the purchase.

The chief conceded that Ramirez had been stopped twice for traffic violations this summer, once while driving a stolen car. On both occasions, he eluded capture.

Gates said a traffic officer gave Ramirez a ticket for an undisclosed violation while the suspect was riding a motorcycle in the downtown area as recently as Aug. 26. But he said the officer failed to

connect Ramirez with the widely distributed composite drawing of the Night Stalker suspect.

"I wish he had taken another step to look more closely, but it's difficult to criticize the officer," Gates said.

Earlier, Ramirez outran another officer who gave chase in the Glassell Park area June 15. The officer had determined during a routine traffic stop that the suspect was driving a stolen car.

Ramirez has been arrested previously on minor drug offenses and for auto thefts, according to authorities. Gates said the fingerprint of Ramirez found at the scene of Vincow's murder could have been matched with the suspect's fingerprints taken when he was booked for a petty theft arrest in South Pasadena in 1981.

Vincow, who lived alone, was slashed to death in a nighttime attack inside her first-floor apartment. The suspect broke in by removing a screen over an open rear window, Gates said.

A law enforcement source said Vincow's apartment "is the first murder scene that has had one (a fingerprint)" identified as Ramirez's.

The source added that another Ramirez fingerprint had been found earlier at the site of a robbery and burglary in Monrovia. Ramirez was charged Tuesday in connection with the May 9 break-in at the home of 85-year-old Clara Hadsell.

The Vincow attack is one of many that authorities have begun examining to determine the extent of the Night Stalker's crimes. The unsolved cases under investigation include murders, rapes, kidnappings, burglaries, child molestations and auto thefts, Gates said.

Although the chief refused to say how many murder cases investigators were scrutinizing for possible Night Stalker connections, one source estimated the number at "a couple hundred."

Deputy District Attorney P. Philip Halpin said the new murder case broadens his agency's investigation.

"Now we're going several years back," Halpin said. "It is outside our original framework and it's going to mean more work for us. But it certainly is helpful."

Meanwhile, a team of 20 sheriff's cadets dressed in yellow raincoats combed through bushes along the Delevan Place onramp to the Glendale Freeway in Glassell Park yesterday for evidence that may be linked to the Night Stalker slayings. Six pieces of "possible evidence" were recovered during the search, said sheriff's spokesman Deputy Richard Shaw. He declined to identify the objects.

Investigators had received a tip that Ramirez may have dumped some items along the onramp during the course of the serial killings, Shaw said. The recovered items were photographed, packaged and inventoried by two detectives on the sheriff's Night Stalker task force, who supervised the search.

Another team of 40 sheriff's cadets armed with metal detectors also searched — unsuccessfully — in the vicinity of Eighth Street and Mott Avenue in Boyle Heights for a small-caliber handgun Ramirez is believed to have thrown away during the chase that led to his capture last Saturday.

A law enforcement source, however, confirmed that sheriff's detectives recovered a .22-caliber handgun last Saturday in Tijuana. That weapon is being examined for possible links to the Night Stalker case, the sheriff's department said.

In San Francisco, police said yesterday that investigators are looking closely at three additional homicides to see if they are linked to the Night Stalker case.

Detectives are examining the June 2 shooting death of 29-year-old Edward Wildgans and the Feb. 20 stabbings of sisters Mary Caldwell, 70, and Christina Caldwell, 58, for possible Night Stalker connections, said San Francisco police Lt. George Kowalski.

Wildgans' girlfriend, who was not injured in the attack, provided a description of the killer that matched that of Ramirez, Kowalski said.

An affidavit filed Saturday by San Francisco police Inspector Frank Falzon in support of the arrest warrant issued for Ramirez connected the suspect to jewelry stolen from Pan's home as well as to "pentagrams," a satanic symbol.

Pentagrams, five-pointed stars, were found on a wall inside the Pan house after the murder and on the door of a San Francisco hotel room where Ramirez stayed sometime within the last two weeks.

Falzon described an interview with a friend of Ramirez's, Donna Louise Myers of San Pablo, who said the suspect has an intense interest in the belief of satanism and believes pentagrams are particularly significant.

"She additionally stated that Richard Ramirez has a tattoo upon his arm of such a pentagram or five-pointed star," Falzon wrote. "She further stated ... that Richard Ramirez, to her knowledge, often draws or inscribes the pentagram, or five-pointed star."

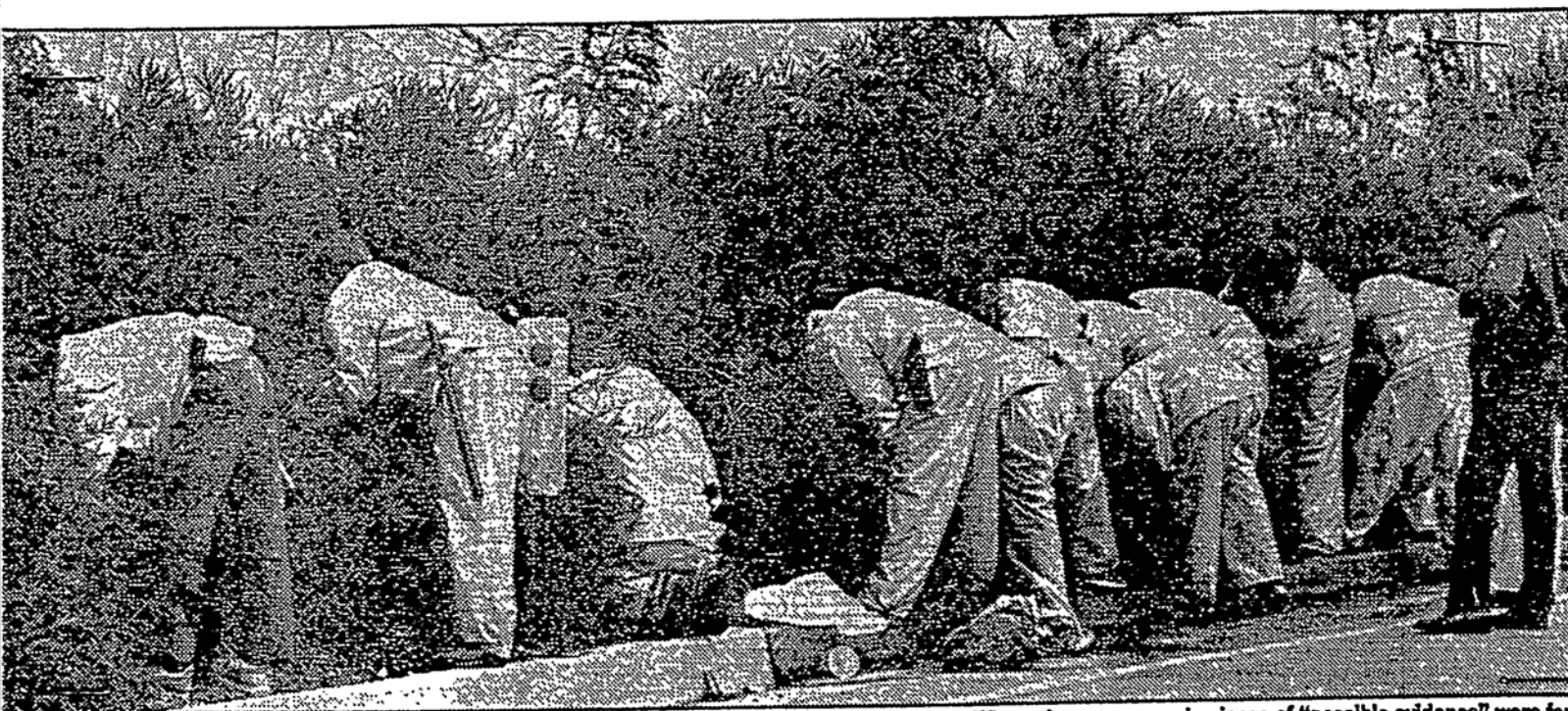
Prosecutors, however, have discounted satanism as a motive in the Night Stalker killings.

Falzon's affidavit also identifies an acquaintance of Ramirez's, Armando Rodriguez of El Sobrante, who said he purchased jewelry from the suspect sometime in late August. The jewelry was identified by Pan's son, David, as belonging to his parents and apparently taken during the Aug. 17 incident. Barbara Pan, Peter's wife, was shot in the head during the attack and remains hospitalized in serious condition.

In another development yesterday, the Associated Press reported that after his arrest, Ramirez phoned his brother, Julian Ramirez Jr., and denied any involvement in the slayings, according to the two men's sister, Rosa Flores of El Paso.

"He was laughing," Flores said. "He laughed and then asked (Julian) how was the weather outside. And then he laughed some more and said he didn't do it. That seems a little psychotic to me."

Herald staff writer Jeff Gottlieb contributed to this story.



eriff's cadets search for evidence in shrubs along Delevan Place onramp to Glendale Freeway. A sheriff's spokesman says six pieces of "possible evidence" were fou

Ramirez charged as Stalker

**DA sifting
'mountain of
evidence' for
more counts**

**By Andy Furillo
and Mark S. Warnick**
Herald staff writers

Bopping and weaving to avoid a battery of cameras, Richard Ramirez was formally charged with murder and seven other crimes yesterday in his first court appearance as the suspected Night Stalker.

And, according to District Attorney Ira Reiner, those charges probably will not be the last filed against the 25-year-old drifter in an investigation focusing on 14 slayings and at least 28 other attacks.

"A mountain of evidence" will be analyzed for other murder charges, Reiner said.

Ramirez was arraigned for the May 14 murder of Monterey Park resident William Doi and seven other counts, including the attack on Doi's wife. He also was charged with the May 9 burglary-robbery of a woman identified only as Clara Hadsell of Monrovia.

"There are a number of homicides, attempted homicides, sexual assaults, burglaries and robberies that are under investigation," Reiner said at a news conference before Ramirez's arraignment.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

A-1 HERALD EXAMINER
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"We have sufficient evidence to convince us that the majority of these crimes were, in fact, committed by the same person. However, I would caution you that not all of these cases are necessarily attributable to the same person."

Reiner said that additional charges will be filed against Ramirez within the next two weeks "assuming the evidence warrants."

Ramirez said only three words during the brief arraignment as Deputy District Attorney P. Philip Halpin read the charges.

"Yes," the suspect answered when Halpin asked him if Richard Ramirez is his true name. Ramirez also replied "yes" two more times, when asked if he agreed to withhold entering his plea and to waive his right to a preliminary hearing

within 10 days.

His next court date was set for Sept. 9. Ramirez is being held without bail.

In addition to the Los Angeles County charges, the San Francisco district attorney's office announced yesterday that murder charges and four other criminal counts have been filed against him, stemming from an Aug. 17 attack in the Bay Area.

Authorities have said that as many as 16 murders have been linked to the Night Stalker. Sheriff's Sgt. Frank Salerno, the head of a task force investigating the Night Stalker attacks, which he said began in early February, said at Reiner's news conference that his agency is only looking at 14 homicides. Two other murders may be linked, but are not yet considered Stalker cases, police have said.

Reiner did not say exactly how many charges would be filed against the suspect.

"I don't think it would be conducive to the investigation... at this time to nail down the exact number" of cases that comprise the Night Stalker probe, Reiner said.

In another development yesterday, Los Angeles County Sheriff Sherman Block said that "significant amounts" of property allegedly stolen by the Night Stalker from the homes of his victims have been recovered.

While refusing to identify the property, Block, who spoke to reporters during a ceremony honoring the East Los Angeles residents who captured Ramirez during a chase last Saturday, said that some of the items have been recovered since the suspect was taken into custody.

Block said that during the Night Stalker's intrusions, "In some homes, he took nothing. In some houses, he took a significant (amount) of items."

The property is being inventoried, Block said, adding that search warrants were used to recover the property. He would not say where

investigators discovered the stolen items.

At his arraignment yesterday, Ramirez also was charged with two counts of burglary, two counts of robbery and single counts of rape, sodomy and oral copulation.

The murder and sexual assault charges and single counts each of robbery and burglary were in connection with the May 14 attack on the home of William and Lillie Doi in Monterey Park, Reiner said.

Doi, 65, was shot and killed and his wife was assaulted. Ramirez also allegedly robbed the couple of their jewelry during the attack.

Murder during the course of robbery comprises a "special circumstances" allegation that could result in the death penalty for Ramirez if he is convicted.

Halpin said prosecutors would decide whether to pursue the death penalty against Ramirez after the suspect's preliminary hearing, assuming he is held over for trial.

Additional robbery and burglary charges were filed in connection with the May 9 break-in at the Monrovia residence of Clara Hadsell, 85. Cash and jewelry were taken from her home. The elderly woman was not physically assaulted.

Deputy Public Defender David Meyer represented Ramirez yesterday. He said he had spoken to Ramirez before the arraignment, but he refused to characterize the suspect's mood.

Reiner, like other law enforcement sources, also downplayed the significance of satanism as a possible motive behind the Night Stalker murders.

"In my discussions with investigators, I haven't found anybody who has taken that seriously," Reiner said.

Salerno, the lead investigator on the Hillside Strangler murders that gripped Los Angeles in 1977-78, called the Night Stalker case "the most important, most difficult, most complex" he has ever worked.

He said investigators believe that the murder suspect acted alone in the Night Stalker attacks.

The San Francisco murder case was filed against Ramirez in connection with the Aug. 17 slaying of Peter Pan, 66, whose wife, Barbara, also was shot in the attack. Ramirez also was charged with attempted murder, burglary and two counts of robbery, said San Francisco district attorney's office spokeswoman Jean Black.

San Francisco authorities set Ramirez's bail at \$10 million.

The Orange County district attorney's office said its charges against Ramirez probably will be filed early next week. The charges, filed in connection with the Aug. 25 shooting of William Carns, 29, and the rape of his fiancée, likely will include individual counts of burglary, rape and attempted murder, said James Enright, the county's chief deputy district attorney, who added that "we want to make sure we do nothing that would interfere with Los Angeles' case." Carns was seriously wounded in the shooting.

Also yesterday:

■ Investigators from the Night Stalker task force traveled to El Paso, Texas, where Ramirez was born and raised, to compile background information on the suspect, sheriff's spokesman Deputy Joe Garza said.

■ Investigators also denied published reports that a weapon believed used by the Night Stalker had been recovered. "No gun has been found," said one investigator close to the case. "We're trying to locate one."

■ Officials have appealed to the public for help in finding a small-caliber handgun witnesses saw Ramirez carrying during Saturday's chase.

■ Tucson, Ariz., police said they received information that Ramirez telephoned his brother, who lives in the Tucson area, sometime last Friday night. Ramirez's brother told police about the call Saturday, about the time of the suspect's arrest, said Tucson Police Chief Peter Ronstadt. Ramirez's call probably was made from the Tucson area, Ronstadt added.

■ The Lompoc Police Department retracted a press release statement that one of Ramirez's fingerprints was discovered in the home of Pan, the San Francisco murder victim.



Flanked by court-appointed attorneys, Night Stalker suspect Richard Ramirez bows his head during arraignment proceedings.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Stalker victim's daughter makes a plea for justice

By Timothy Carlson
Herald staff writer

The daughter of William Doi, the victim of the only murder so far charged to Night Stalker suspect Richard Ramirez, said yesterday that she will not rest easy until justice is done.

"I will only feel relief when a person is proven without a shadow of a doubt to be my father's killer," said the victim's 36-year-old daughter, Linda. "I presume the police have completed all the correct legal steps, but... it's hard to tell what will happen in the courts."

Doi died May 14 after being shot in the face by a man who broke into his Monterey Park home just before dawn and then assaulted his wife, Lillian.

A retired freight executive for the Santa Fe Railroad, Doi never lost faith in the American system of justice, his daughter said, even when he was put into a detention camp for Japanese-Americans during World War II.

After petitioning to President Franklin Roosevelt, Doi was among many Japanese-Americans who were allowed to fight against the Germans in Africa and Europe in the highly decorated Nisei regiment.

"My mother asks over and over, 'Why?' Why did it happen to my father?" said Linda, who asked that her last name not be used. "Why would someone do something this brutal to not only one person, but so many? To anyone with any moral fiber, it seems so unbelievable."

Linda, a Monterey Park resident, said that like her late father, her mother has shown amazing resilience. "My father was never bitter about his experience in the detention camps," she said. "My mother, who had suffered a stroke a few years ago, seems to have recovered from this better than anyone in our family."

"We just hope they have enough evidence to convict someone of these crimes, because without bringing someone to full justice under the law, our family's grief

will be prolonged."

Doi, who was 65 when he died, was born in San Luis Obispo. His father was a broker in the farming business near Salinas. After World War II, Doi worked as a truck rate clerk in Chicago.

After studying international business at night at Northwestern University, Doi embarked on a long

career with a transportation division of the Santa Fe Railroad, retiring a few years ago as director of international sales.

Linda, who is studying psychotherapy, said that her field includes child abuse and sexual abuse.

"I would like to know what is in the background to make a person do something like this," she said.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

A-7 HERALD EXAMINER
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(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Stalker Suspect Arraigned; Also Charged in S.F.

By ROBERT W. STEWART,
Times Staff Writer

Standing with his head bowed, Night Stalker suspect Richard Ramirez was arraigned Tuesday on a single murder count and seven other charges stemming from two late night attacks in early May in the San Gabriel Valley.

Ramirez was charged with murder, burglary, robbery, rape, sodomy and forced oral copulation in the May 14 shooting death of William Doi, 65, of Monterey Park and an attack on Doi's wife. Because of the allegation of special circumstances—that Ramirez killed Doi while committing the other crimes—he could face the death penalty.

Living Alone

In a second attack that had not previously been publicized, Ramirez was accused of robbing and burglarizing the Monrovia home of 85-year-old Clara Cecilia Hadsall on May 9. The woman, who was living alone, told authorities that a man appeared in her bedroom at 2:30 a.m., shined a flashlight in her eyes and robbed her of cash and jewelry.

Meanwhile, authorities in San Francisco said they have formally charged Ramirez, a 25-year-old drifter, with the Aug. 17 murder of accountant Peter Pan, 66, and the attempted murder of his wife, Barbara.

And in Orange County, the district attorney's office said it expects to charge Ramirez today with attempted murder, rape, robbery and burglary in connection with an Aug. 25 attack on a Mission Viejo couple.

At a press conference before Ramirez's arraignment in Los Angeles Municipal Court, Los Angeles County Dist. Atty. Ira Reiner said investigators are still developing evidence in "a number" of murders, attempted murders, burglaries, robberies and sexual assaults that tentatively have been linked to a

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nighttime intruder police have dubbed the Night Stalker.

Although the precise numbers have been in dispute, authorities believe that the assailant, who frequently entered victims' homes through open doors or windows, may have committed as many as 14 murders and nearly two dozen other crimes, including sexual assaults and burglaries, since early February. Most of the attacks occurred in the San Gabriel and San Fernando valleys.

"Assuming the evidence warrants," Reiner said, "we will be filing additional charges (against Ramirez) within the next couple of weeks."

At the request of deputy public defenders David Meyer and Bernadette Everman, Los Angeles Municipal Judge Elva R. Soper allowed Ramirez to delay entering pleas until Monday. Captured Saturday by East Los Angeles residents after he allegedly attempted to steal two autos, Ramirez is being held without bail in Los Angeles County Jail.

A Los Angeles law enforcement official said Tuesday that Ramirez is not talking to detectives about the crimes. He appears calm and relaxed, is sleeping and eating well, and is "recovering nicely" from injuries he suffered when he was captured, officials said. He has refused requests for interviews.

Spectators Screened

Sheriff's deputies took unusual steps to protect Ramirez at his arraignment Tuesday, screening spectators with metal detectors before admitting them to Soper's courtroom on the fifth floor of the Criminal Courts Building. The usually empty benches in the gallery were packed with reporters, photographers and spectators.

Asked why his office did not file charges in other cases that police have linked to the Night Stalker, Reiner said, "The evidence that we have presently with respect to the two cases that we have filed on . . . is clear . . . There is more than sufficient evidence for us to file."

"In terms of the rest of the case, understand that the suspect was arrested just over the weekend," Reiner said. "There is a mountain of evidence that has to be collated, has to be analyzed, has to be investigated, there is scientific investigation that is still going on. Within the next couple of weeks, I expect it will all be pulled together and decisions will be made as to which cases will be filed."

Outside Soper's courtroom, Deputy Dist. Atty. P. Philip Halpin, who is prosecuting the case, said the charges filed against Ramirez in the Doi and Hadsall incidents are based on physical evidence. Neither surviving victim has yet been asked to identify Ramirez as her assailant, Halpin said.

However, Halpin said he expects that authorities will stage a lineup soon for victims of crimes believed committed by the Night Stalker.

Halpin said he expects that authorities in San Francisco and Orange counties will wait until court proceedings in Los Angeles are complete before moving to put Ramirez on trial in their jurisdictions.

"I would anticipate, assuming that we get going, that they will wait until we're through," Halpin said.

Information that emerged Tuesday about the events that led to Ramirez' identification as the suspected Night Stalker indicated that new computerized technology and old-fashioned police work both played a role. But it was not clear which proved more important.

At a Sacramento press conference, Atty. Gen. John Van de Kamp credited a new Department of Justice computer system with picking Ramirez' fingerprints out of 380,000 other sets Friday only three minutes after the system was fed a partial print lifted from a stolen car spotted in the vicinity of the Mission Viejo attack.

In that Aug. 25 incident, Bill Carns, 29, was critically injured when he was shot in the head while sleeping. His fiancée was raped.

Van de Kamp said that the need to capture the Night Stalker was so urgent that the installation of the new "Cal-ID"

computer system, which is still in progress, was interrupted so the system could be reprogrammed to search for the Night Stalker's prints.

It was a fluke that Ramirez's fingerprints, taken after an arrest in December, 1984, showed up in the computer's memory banks, Van de Kamp said. The only prints that so far have been fed into the system are those of offenders born since Jan. 1, 1960, Van de Kamp said. Ramirez was born in February of that year.

The same day the computer identified Ramirez's prints, The Times learned, a San Pablo woman supplied San Francisco police with Ramirez's last name and led them to another man who, it turned out, had purchased from Ramirez jewelry stolen from murder victims in San Francisco and Southern California.

Donna Louise Myers told The Times that San Francisco police contacted her Friday, four days after her daughter, who lives in Lompoc, had told local police about a longtime family acquaintance named Rick who seemed to resemble a composite

drawing of the Night Stalker.

The daughter told Lompoc police that family members had recently purchased jewelry from Rick in San Francisco.

When San Francisco authorities knocked on Myers' door in San Pablo, Myers said, she told them that Rick's last name is Ramirez, and that she had been introduced to him six or seven years before in El Paso, Tex., his hometown, by Armando Rodriguez, a friend who lives in El Sobrante in the San Francisco Bay Area.

In an affidavit sworn by San Francisco police to obtain a warrant for Ramirez's arrest, authorities said Rodriguez gave them a diamond engagement ring, a pair of cuff links and two other pieces of jewelry that had been stolen from the home of the Pans in San Francisco. Rodriguez told police he had purchased the jewelry from Ramirez, the affidavit said.

Los Angeles detectives later examined other pieces of jewelry that police obtained from Rodriguez and determined that some had been stolen from the homes of Night

Stalker victims in the Los Angeles area.

The affidavit also disclosed that a bullet removed from Pan's body was declared by a ballistics expert to have been fired from the same gun used to kill some of the Night Stalker's Los Angeles victims.

The affidavit said that both Myers and the keeper of a San Francisco rooming house where Ramirez was believed to have stayed said the suspect showed an unusual interest in the occult and Satan.

Alex Meinikov, the manager of the Bristol Hotel at 56 Mason St. in San Francisco, told police that he had found an inverted, five-pointed star, known as a pentagram, inscribed on the door of a room adjacent to one occupied by Ramirez in late August. A similar star was found on the wall at the Pans' home, the affidavit said.

A pentagram, believed by some to represent Satan's horns, is frequently associated with the occult and devil worship.

However, at the press conference that followed Ramirez's arraignment Tuesday, Reiner played down the role of devil worship in the case.

"In my discussions with investigators, I haven't found anyone who has taken any of that seriously," he said.

Meanwhile, the Los Angeles Police Department backed away from a statement it had released Friday that linked the Night Stalker with 16 murders. The Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, which is coordinating the law enforcement task force investigating the Night Stalker attacks, had set the total of killings at 14.

Asked Tuesday if the LAPD's tally of 16 murders still stands, Cmdr. William Booth said, "We're not playing numbers. The detectives now are in a better position to sit down with the district attorney and determine which crimes they can close. We're not going to talk numbers now."

Reiner said, "We have sufficient evidence to convince us that the majority of these crimes were, in fact, committed by the same person. However, I would caution you that not all of these cases are necessarily attributable to the same person."

In response to a reporter's question, the district attorney said it "would not be conducive to the investigation" to say how many crimes that the district attorney's office believes are connected.

Meanwhile, some of the merchants, clerks and others who live and work in Los Angeles' Skid Row neighborhood said Tuesday that Ramirez spent much time in recent months in hotels and in cafes near the corner of Main and 7th streets.

Those who remembered Ramirez described him as a disheveled, wild-haired, wary loner.

"He was quiet. He used to come in, buy a Pepsi, chips. Sometimes he'd have some wine that he'd bought somewhere else, he'd drink a little of it on the street out there, talk to some guys I didn't know," said Larry Gaj, night clerk at Mike's Market on 7th St. near Main.

"He used to wear a black jacket

... what struck me most was his hair. It was so unruly. It just looked wild. He looked like one of the losers," said Gaj, who said he has worked in the area for 25 years.

Gaj said he had seen Ramirez in the area "off and on for the past six to eight months."

Others said they did not remember Ramirez frequenting the area for that long a time, but many said they believed he lived for at least several weeks at the 700-room Hotel Cecil, 640 S. Main St., where rooms are as low as \$14 a night.

Raoul Enriquez, a hotel night clerk, said a man he is certain is Ramirez lived in a 14th-floor room for several weeks in late July and August and for another two weeks in late August.

Enriquez, 36, who lives in a room on the same floor said he had a few brief conversations with Ramirez and said Ramirez told him he was from Ciudad Juarez, Mexico. He said the men did not know each other by name.

He said Ramirez liked to play rock 'n' roll music on his hotel-room radio and, judging from odors Enriquez could smell, was smoking marijuana. Family members and acquaintances of Ramirez had pre-

viously described his love of both loud music and the drug.

Enriquez said there were three- and four-day periods in which Ramirez appeared to be staying in his room.

Nearby, at Margarita's Place, a 24-hour restaurant, waiter Alfredo Leyva said Ramirez had come in to eat about 10 times, the most recent being two months ago.

"He always come in alone," Leyva said. "He don't talk with nobody."

In another development Tuesday, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors presented plaques to five East Los Angeles residents and to Sheriff's Deputy Andres (Andy) Ramirez for their role in the capture and arrest of suspect Ramirez.

The residents honored for their role in the dramatic Saturday morning capture were Carmelo Robles and Frank Moreno, who started chasing Ramirez after he

unsuccessfully tried to steal a car parked outside a barber shop. Faustino Pinon, who joined the chase after the suspect tried to steal his daughter's Mustang; Manuel De La Torre, who hit Ramirez with a steel rod after the suspect struck De La Torre's wife and then tried to steal her car; and Jose Burgoin, who also chased Ramirez and helped hold him until police arrived.

Deputy Ramirez, 25, who is not related to the suspect, was the first officer on the scene.

"Hollywood couldn't have better planned it," Supervisor Kenneth Hahn said at the presentation ceremony. "We had heroes of the Olympic Games. These are our heroes this year."

Los Angeles Mayor Tom Bradley plans a similar award ceremony today at City Hall.

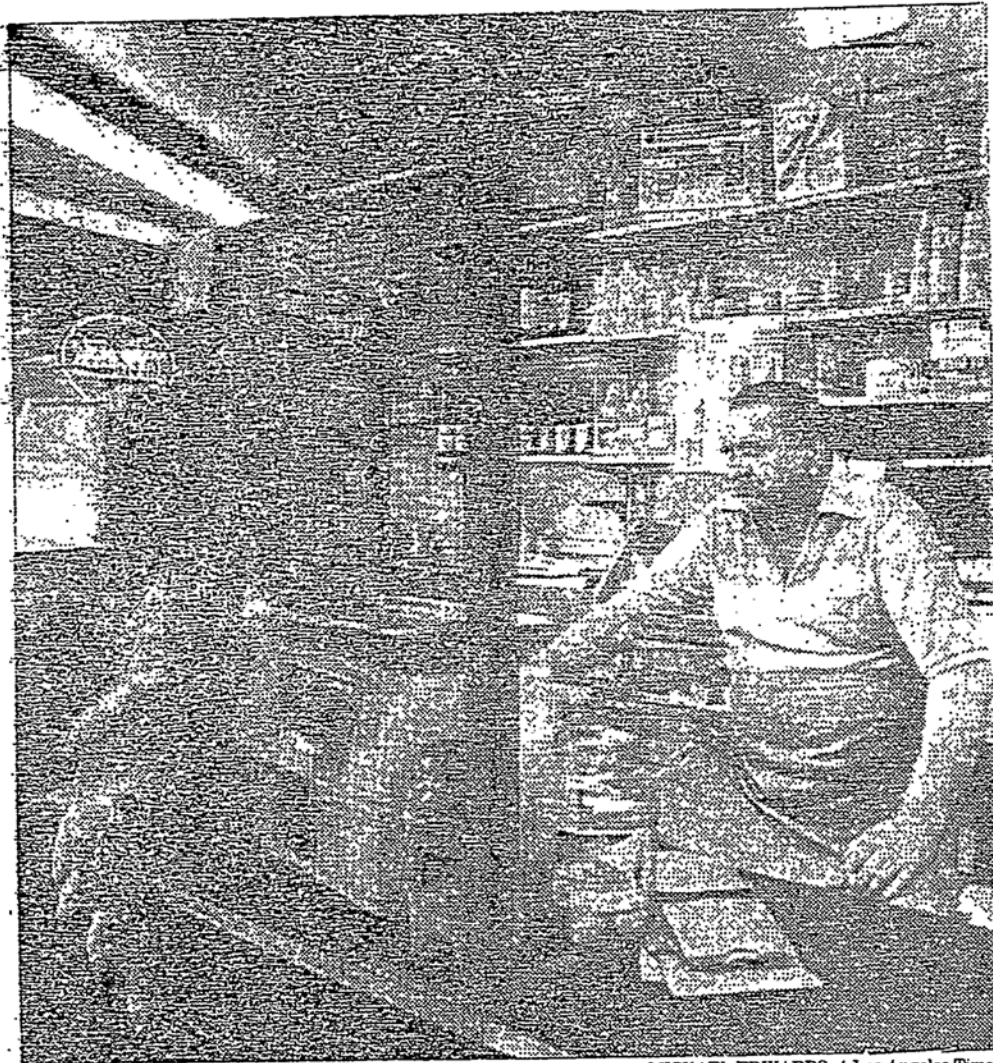
The supervisors also acted on the distribution of some of the total

\$80,095 offered by a variety of state and local government officials for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the killer.

The supervisors passed a motion introduced by Supervisor Pete Schabarum to convene a special panel, made up of county sheriff's, legal and administrative personnel, to determine who will share in the \$30,095 county reward.

"Any final determination of the amount of reward to be given to individuals should wait until it is determined whether others will step forward," Schabarum said. "and offer information that will assist in the conviction of the person responsible for these heinous crimes."

Contributing to this article were Times staff writers Bob Baker, Leslie Berkman, David Freed, Leonard Greenwood, Carl Ingram, Eric Malnic, Carol McGraw, Penelope McMillan, Dan Morain and Mark A. Stein.



MICHAEL EDWARDS / Los Angeles Times

Larry Gaj, night clerk at Mike's Market on 7th near Main: "He looked like one of the losers."

Below, the Hotel Cecil, where Ramirez is believed to have lived.



Mount Clipping in Space Below

NIGHT STALKER CASE

Police downplay role of satanism in murder spree

By Andy Furillo
and Chris Woolyard
Herald staff writers

As criminal charges were being prepared for filing in the Night Stalker multiple murder case, officials yesterday downplayed the role of satanism as a possible motive behind the 16 grisly slayings that terrorized California.

Meanwhile, it was disclosed yesterday that the fingerprints of Richard Ramirez, the suspect in the series of murders from the Bay Area to Orange County, were found in the home of the Night Stalker's final murder victim in San Francisco.

In Los Angeles, investigators continued their search for the

gun Ramirez may have used, while a sheriff's team of criminologists combed a car found Sunday that the suspect is believed to have driven.

As for the case's satanic overtones, one law enforcement source close to the Night Stalker investigation said that symbols such as inverted pentagrams were discovered only "at a couple" of locations in which Ramirez allegedly shot, raped, sodomized and mutilated his victims.

"But they certainly weren't at all (locations)," the source said. "I think you (the press) are going off on the wrong tangent."

Another law enforcement source suggested that the Night

Stalker/B-8, Col. 1

Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state

Page 1
HERALD EXAMINER
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Title POLICE DOWNPLAY ROLE OF
SATANISM IN MURDER SPREE

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...er committed the crimes sim-
to satisfy his own demented
se of pleasure.

"This guy liked what he was
ing and wanted to do as much as
sible," this source said.

This source also confirmed the
covery of satanic symbols at
the homes that were invaded by
Night Stalker, but indicated
the pentagrams were left
and primarily as "a calling
card."

"Look at Berkowitz," this source
said, referring to David Berkowitz,
the so-called Son of Sam killer who
claimed that demons who had
possessed his neighbor's dog pro-
duced him into killing his six victims
in the New York City area in 1977.
He was a (con) artist, too. He
wanted to make people think he was
going to a dog. But he copped out
on that. You see a lot of stuff at a
lot of these scenes."

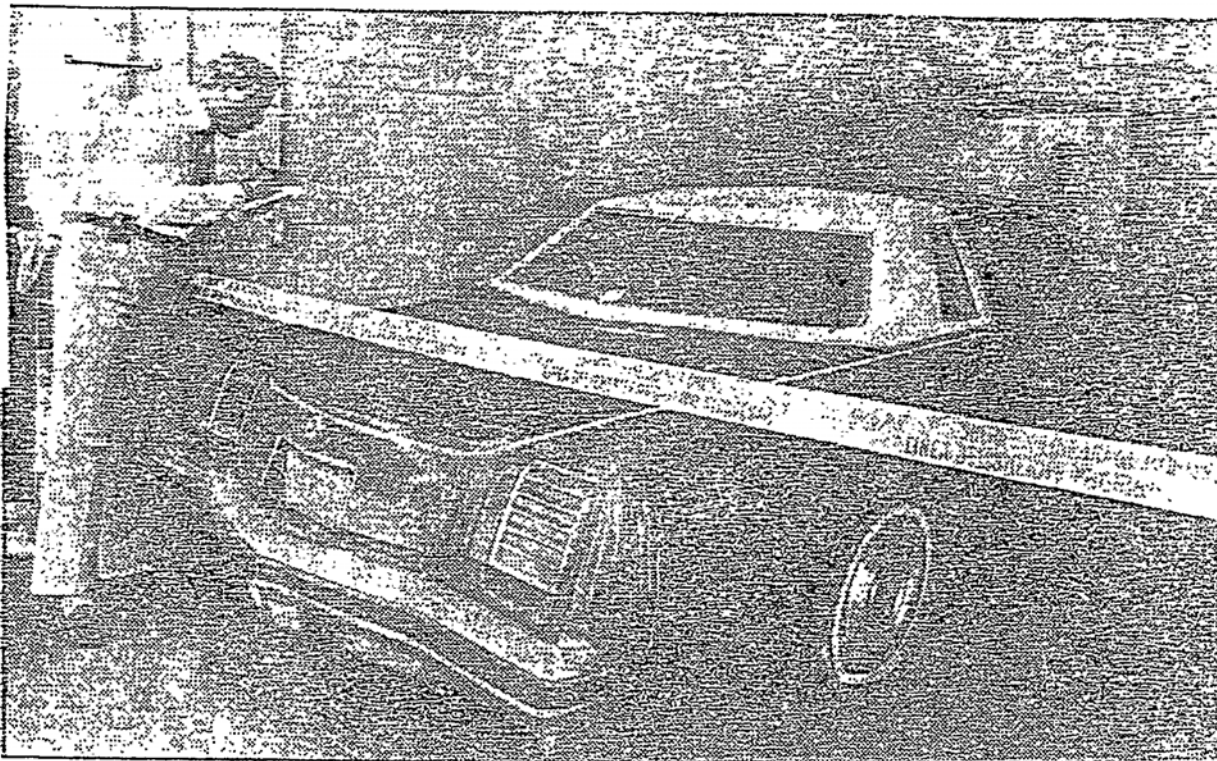
As for the Night Stalker slayings,
this source said that they were
among the most brutal he has ever

Deputy District Attorney Philip
Halpin, the prosecutor assigned to
the Night Stalker case, said that the
charges of satanism have not
been raised in discussions he has
had with investigators who are
working the case.

"It's one of those exotic things,"
Halpin said. "But it doesn't take up
a lot of our time. We're more
concerned with the hard facts."
Investigators worked around the
clock yesterday and Sunday to put
the facts together for the first of
the murder cases that are expected
to be filed in Los Angeles Municipal
Court against the 25-year-old Rami-

"We're under a legal obligation
to arraign him in a timely manner,"
Halpin said, referring to Ramirez's
Constitutional right to have charges
against him within two court
sessions of his Saturday arrest or be set

Ramirez's arraignment, then,
will take place before tomorrow,
Halpin said that thanks to the



A green 1976 Pontiac Grand Prix, believed to have been used by the Night Stalker, is inspected by police in East Los Angeles.

monumental effort on the part of
the multiagency Night Stalker task
force since the suspect's arrest, he
probably will be able to file at least
one of the 16 homicide cases against
Ramirez sometime today.

"The bulk of this thing will have
to come later," Halpin said. "A lot of
our scientific evidence is still com-
ing in."

That evidence will take the form
of bullet comparisons, firearm com-
parisons and possibly some finger-
prints found at some of the murder
locations, Halpin said.

Investigators yesterday contin-
ued their search for a crucial piece
of evidence in the case — a gun that
Ramirez may have thrown away
Saturday during his unsuccessful
dash for freedom through East Los
Angeles.

A detective who walked through
the yard of a home that fronts
Esperanza Street on the East Side
said authorities would probably be
back again to take a closer look for
the weapon, a small caliber hand-
gun that investigators say is desper-
ately needed to connect Ramirez to
some of the slayings.

Ramirez was seen running with
a gun Saturday by Salvador Chavez
on Siskiyou Street in the Hollen-
beck area of East Los Angeles.
Chavez said he saw Ramirez run
north into an alley that runs
parallel with Esperanza Street.

The suspect was next spotted —
without a gun, according to wit-
nesses — running through a yard

that includes three duplexes, in-
cluding the one fronting on Esper-
anza Street, where Johnny Morales'
large dog chased Ramirez.

Residents of the East Side com-
munity eventually captured Rami-
rez and held him until sheriff's
deputies arrived.

The Los Angeles County sheriff's
department forensic team spent
most of yesterday morning exam-
ining a green 1976 Pontiac Grand Prix
believed to have been driven by
Ramirez that was discovered Sun-
day in Lincoln Heights.

Results of the examination were
not available by late last night.
Investigators apparently were look-
ing for fingerprints and possibly
some traces of blood.

The disclosure that Ramirez's
fingerprints were discovered in the
home of the Night Stalker's murder
victim in San Francisco came in a
press release issued yesterday by
Chief J.D. Smith of the Lompoc
Police Department.

Smith said that an unidentified
resident of the northern Santa
Barbara County community helped
provide San Francisco police with a
positive identification of Ramirez.
The tip allowed the Bay Area
investigators to trace a fingerprint
lifted from the suspected Night
Stalker slaying in the Bay Area to
the suspect.

Smith said that the unidentified
citizen contacted Lompoc police on
Aug. 26 and said that members of
her family who were in the San

Francisco area five days earlier had
learned that "an old family
acquaintance named Rick" was in the
Bay Area on Aug. 17, the day that
Peter Pan, 66, the last of the Night
Stalker's murder victims, was slain.

The Lompoc woman told police
that "Rick's" appearance matched
the composite drawing of the Night
Stalker that had been distributed
throughout the state, Smith said.

In addition, Smith said the
woman told authorities her fam-
ily members had obtained a bracelet
from "Rick" that had been stolen
in an Aug. 15 burglary in the Mari-
n district of San Francisco — two
days before the Pan homicide.

Lompoc police forwarded this
information to the San Francisco
Police Department homicide in-
vestigators, who termed the disclos-
ure "a very hot lead," according
to Smith.

A reinterview with the Lompoc
informant by Sgt. Harry Heidt of
the city's police department turned
up the names of some Bay Area
residents who then provided San
Francisco detectives with "Rick's"
complete name — Richard Ramirez.

In Phoenix, police Sgt. De-
Benson said yesterday that LAPD
detectives attempting to trace Ra-
mirez's movements in the days
before his capture have told him
that the suspected Night Stalker
was in the Arizona city just a few
days before his arrest on Saturday.

Herald staff writer Ruben Cast-
neda contributed to this story.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Ramirez Missed News on Identity, Authorities Think

By DAVID FREED, Times Staff Writer

Investigators theorized Monday that Night Stalker suspect Richard Ramirez had been visiting relatives in Arizona and took a bus back to Los Angeles Saturday morning unaware that he had been publicly identified as the prime suspect the night before.

"We thought this guy was real smart but this just points out how incredibly arrogant he was," said a law enforcement source close to the case who asked not to be identified.

Only after Ramirez's return to California, when he saw his picture on the front page of a Spanish-language newspaper, did he realize that he had been publicly identified as the stalker suspect. He ran and was captured minutes later by angry citizens in East Los Angeles.

Meanwhile, police confirmed Monday that they have recovered at least one handgun believed used by the killer and are continuing to search for another small pistol that Ramirez, 25, may have dropped Saturday as he was being pursued.

The weapons are considered crucial in linking Ramirez to many of the 16 slayings that police have attributed to the stalker. Most of the victims were shot to death with one of three pistols; others were fatally stabbed or bludgeoned in a seven-month crime spree that detectives believe may have involved satanic ritual.

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1-3 LOS ANGELES TIMES
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Title RAMIREZ MISSED NEWS ON
IDENTITY, AUTHORITIES THINK

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Indexing

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FBI - LOS ANGELES	

No Attorney Called

Ramirez remained in a high-security area of the Los Angeles County Central Jail on Monday and is expected to be arraigned on murder charges Wednesday. He had not contacted an attorney as of Sunday night, authorities said.

He has been interviewed by homicide detectives from Los Angeles and San Francisco and reportedly has remained silent when asked if he committed any crimes.

"I think he just wants a chance to rest and recuperate," the law enforcement source said. "I think he is down from his emotional roller coaster ride and now is just a scared young man."

Detectives believe that Ramirez, a junk food addict with rotting teeth and a history of nonviolent crime, had no permanent home or work. Originally from El Paso, he arrived in California about four years ago, dividing his time between the San Francisco and Los Angeles areas, sleeping in seedy apartments and dabbling in devil worship, according to authorities.

"He was just a burglar," said the source.

Ramirez may have been heading to California after a brief stay in Arizona at just about the moment that the manhunt for him intensi-

fied on Friday night, detectives said. It was late Friday when Los Angeles County Sheriff Sherman Block, whose department is heading a multiagency stalker task force, released Ramirez's picture and reported that evidence linked Ramirez to the serial killings.

In Tucson, Ariz., police Sgt. Paul Hallums said Monday that his department received a call from Los Angeles authorities late last week "to check our records to determine whether or not (Ramirez) has a brother in Tucson. They told us there was a possibility (the suspect) was here last week."

Phoenix police were also notified.

Hallums said records indicate that Ramirez, the youngest of five children, had a brother living in Tucson as late as 1983. Police were attempting to find him Monday.

Tucson police, Hallums said, also were checking whether they have had any recent homicides similar to those attributed to the stalker.

A security supervisor at the Greyhound bus depot in Los Angeles said Monday that Ramirez arrived at the station early Saturday, although investigators were still trying to determine which bus he rode.

On Saturday afternoon, four officers arrived at the depot and confiscated a large brown tote bag that Ramirez had apparently left there, the supervisor said, adding that he did not know what was in the bag.

2 Other Killings

If Ramirez was in Arizona until Saturday morning, it might remove him as a suspect in a stalker-like double slaying that occurred about 32 miles east of Los Angeles early Saturday.

The bodies of two men were found shot to death after a party in their Montclair home in suburban San Bernardino County.

Investigators said Monday that they are not yet ruling out Ramirez's possible involvement in the case.

After leaving the Greyhound station Saturday, Ramirez went to a liquor store at 819 Towne St. A clerk there said Ramirez picked up a copy of La Opinion, saw his picture on the front page and bolted.

He was beaten into submission minutes later by citizens on East Hubbard Street, after he allegedly punched a woman in the stomach and tried to steal her car.

"He came into town fat, dumb and happy, and then he saw his picture and he panicked," a lawman said.

Living incognito under several

aliases, Ramirez stayed briefly during mid-August with a friend in El Sobrante, a suburb north of Oakland, investigators said. That friend, Armando Rodriguez, 25, was tracked down by San Francisco police in El Sobrante and provided them with Ramirez's name on Friday.

The woman who rented Rodriguez a room in her home expressed shock when she learned that the man suspected of 16 homicides had stayed under her roof. She requested anonymity and said she never saw Ramirez.

As prosecutors prepared their case against Ramirez, a clearer picture emerged of how investigators were able to identify him as a prime suspect in the homicides.

In Lompoc, 130 miles north of Los Angeles, Police Chief J.D. Smith said Monday that his department received a call on Aug. 26 from a Lompoc woman who told officers that members of her family had been in San Francisco five days before and had purchased a bracelet and gold ring from an old family acquaintance from El Paso,

Tex., whom she knew only as Rick.

The woman noted that "Rick" matched the description of a widely circulated composite sketch of the stalker suspect.

Investigators discovered that the pieces had been stolen in an Aug. 15 burglary in San Francisco's Marina District. The burglary occurred two days before the stalker crept into another San Francisco residence to kill 66-year-old accountant Peter Pan and wound Pan's wife.

Fingerprints found at the Marina District burglary matched those found in a stolen car seen Aug. 25 in the Orange County community of Mission Viejo, where 29-year-old William Carns was critically wounded in an attack. Fingerprints from both Mission Viejo and San Francisco matched Ramirez's prints on file with the California Department of Justice in Sacramento.

An all-points bulletin went out Friday night.

Times staff writer Dan Morain contributed to this story from El Sobrante.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Indicate page, date,
newspaper

Los Angeles Times
Los Angeles, Ca.
9-8-85
Tuesday

Title FEAR OVER NEIGHBORHOOD
SAFETY RENEWED

Character
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Submitting Office Los Angeles

Fear Over Neighborhood Safety Renewed

By PATT MORRISON, Times Staff Writer

The aging, green Pontiac Grand Prix looked to be just another one of the many cars—stolen, broken down or simply abandoned—that drivers often leave along the quiet Lincoln Heights street that borders the Golden State Freeway.

For about a month, the hottest missing car in Southern California sat at a curb accumulating dust. But Sunday night, as police swarmed around and a tow truck driver wearing white gloves carefully hauled the car away, neighbors realized that it had been left there by a man they had all been afraid of: Night Stalker suspect Richard Ramirez.

The discovery of the 1976 Pontiac rekindled concerns on North Avenue 23 about neighborhood safety—and what residents say police have not done about it.

Stalker task force investigators had been searching for the green Grand Prix since July 20, when a witness reported spotting it driving away from the scene of a killing in Sun Valley, where a man was slain in his bedroom, his wife raped and their 8-year-old son beaten.

Near Freeway

And for much of the time since, authorities said, it was parked on Avenue 23, a scant two blocks from a freeway off-ramp. The street sweeper that supposedly cleans the area every Wednesday between 1 and 5 a.m. must have swept right around it at least three times.

Hollenbeck Division police, in whose jurisdiction the street lies, refused comment Monday on any matters concerning the Night Stalker, referring all inquiries to the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department. Detectives there were unavailable for comment.

Authorities said Sunday that a man believed

to be Ramirez's brother told them where to find the car. His identity could not immediately be learned.

"We have a lot of cars stolen and left across the street, and we call police if it looks stripped or abandoned," said Mary Ellen Rodriguez, 24, whose family has lived on the block for 17 years.

Rodriguez said the abandoned cars worry her almost as much as do the homeless winos who have hauled in mattresses, even old armchairs to set up housekeeping in little clearings across the street, under the bushes that screen Avenue 23 from the freeway.

Rodriguez, who has a little girl and is concerned about the other children on the street, said increased police visibility is needed to deter crime.

The short street, lined on one side with California bungalows, dead-ends in an industrial area. It is a polylingual street too. The old-time families are Latinos, the newcomers Chinese and Vietnamese and the language and cultural differences can make neighborliness a delicate matter.

Rodriguez would have reported the abandoned Pontiac herself, but it was parked farther down the street, across from an occupied house, and she thought it might belong to a resident, so she refrained.

"It's a lesson to police," said one resident who also complains to police about the street. She did not want her name used. "They should patrol here" because of the cars, "and with all those winos, they should cut those trees."

While some, like Rodriguez and her sister Valerie Velasquez, 19, have tried to stem the tide of abandoned cars and resident derelicts, others have gotten so accustomed to it that they figure

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FBI - LOS ANGELES	

there is little that even police can do to stop it. "I noticed it'd been a few weeks there anyway, and I never saw anyone get close to it," said retired welder Edward A. Rodriguez, no relation to the sisters. "I thought probably something was wrong with it, or (the owners) didn't want to wash it."

The recovery of the dust-caked car yielded police few if any clues. Sources said a tire iron was found inside, but they doubted it had been used as a weapon.

A similar tire iron, left at the scene of one of the 16 murders attributed to the Stalker, was believed to have been used to bludgeon a victim to death.

State motor vehicle records show the Pontiac registered to Jesus Estrada at a San Fernando address. However, Estelle Gonzales, who said she has lived at that address for 17 years, said Friday that she did not own the car and did not know Ramirez.

Sauntered Off

Still, it sent a shudder through the neighborhood. The thought that the suspected killer dropped his car there and sauntered off to continue what police say was his killing spree.

For the past few weeks, Mary Ellen Rodriguez's aunt Mary, who lives with them, had slept during the day so she could stay awake and alert at night and had scolded family members who opened louvered windows in the heat. She nearly fainted, said her niece, when she learned how near the man had been.

"I thank God he didn't decide to come in here," said Edward Rodriguez. "I told my wife, 'This is a real small world.' He was so close."



JOE KENNEDY / Los Angeles Times

Residents on East Hubbard Street in East Los Angeles pen their thanks to the residents who captured Richard Ramirez



1984 LAPD mug shot of suspect Richard Ramirez, left, and widely distributed police composite sketch of Night Stalker, right.

Neighbors who caught Ramirez meet press

By Ruben Castaneda
Herald staff writer

The day after the dramatic citizen capture of the Night Stalker suspect, the East Los Angeles residents who cornered the fugitive contended with a second invasion of their neighborhood: the press.

The inhabitants of Hubbard Street, just east of the Los Angeles city line, were deluged with sheriff's deputies, policemen and reporters Saturday when Richard Ramirez, the suspected Night Stalker, was run down and captured by four residents.

The police and sheriff's squad cars were gone yesterday, but the journalists — electronic and print — were back en masse, and were joined by a number of well-wishers who came by to congratulate the residents who helped capture the suspect.

The people hailed as heroes by reporters remained gracious and low-key, generally downplaying their roles in capturing the 25-year-old Ramirez, named by investigators as the prime suspect in as many as 16 murders and 28 assaults.

Typical was the comment of 54-year-old Jose Burgoin, one of the four people who captured Ramirez: "I'm happy that people are saying we did something good. I feel good to have been able to help."

Burgoin and the three others

who surrounded Ramirez — two of Burgoin's sons, Jaime and Julio, and Manuel De La Torre — are typical working-class people in a typical, blue-collar East Los Angeles neighborhood.

The four, and another man who struggled with Ramirez, Phastino "Tino" Pinon, modestly declined the mantle of "hero" yesterday. They did what they had to do, they said.

On his last, frenetic flight for freedom, Ramirez attempted to steal a car in Pinon's yard, then another from Angelina De La Torre, then attempted to flee before being overtaken by his four pursuers.

Jose Burgoin went after Ramirez because he attacked Angelina De La Torre; Manuel De La Torre joined Burgoin because Angelina is his wife; and Jaime and Julio Burgoin went after the suspect because they saw their father giving chase.

PHOTO: PAGE 10
NEWSPAPER CITY AND STATE

PERALD EXAMINER
LOS ANGELES, CA

Date: 9-2-85
Editor: Monday

Title TOAST OF THE TOWN

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or

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SEP 04 1985	
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FBI/DOJ

None of the four knew until later that they were chasing the man believed to be the Night Stalker.

Manuel and Angelina De La Torre yesterday had a steady stream of well-wishers come by their modest, well-kept duplex.

A man gave the couple a bottle of French champagne, and a couple dropped by and presented them with a Cabbage Patch doll for their daughter, Amber.

"People are coming by and saying, 'Thank you, we're going to sleep better now,'" said Angelina De La Torre, 29.

A number of relatives were also on hand yesterday to congratulate Angelina, an immigrant from the Mexican town of Jerez, who has been married to Manuel eight years.

Manuel De La Torre, who hit Ramirez at least two or three times with a metal rod, works in a furniture factory. Nervous in interviews Saturday, Manuel seemed more relaxed yesterday as report-

ers stood in line in De La Torre's test.

back yard to talk to him and his wife.

"I was just defending my wife," he said, adding he was a bit surprised at all the attention.

"I thought the police would get him and I would go home and that would be it," he said.

Instead, the swarm of reporters who descended on his home Saturday evening made it difficult for him and his wife to entertain family members and friends who came over for their daughter Amber's third birthday party.

Across the street yesterday, Jose, Jaime and Julio Burgoin were doing their own version of "Meet the Press."

Reporters climbed up on and down from the porch of the Burgoin home, taking turns interviewing the three as kids ran around the yard.

Jaime, 21, hopes to become a California Highway Patrolman. He has made an application with the agency and has taken a preliminary

"People are calling to thank me and thank everyone involved. They're very relieved," said Jaime, a soft-spoken, unassuming young man.

Jaime said he received a call from a San Diego man who told him he had connections with the CHP and who offered to write a strong recommendation for him.

"I don't feel extra special or heroic," Jaime said.

"I don't feel like a hero," added Julio, 17. "Everybody contributed."

Jose Burgoin was born in the Baja region of Mexico and immigrated to the United States in the 1950s. He worked in construction for 25 years and now lives on his union pension. His wife died four years ago. He took two of his younger sons to the park yesterday afternoon.

When he arrived home, he was immediately surrounded by reporters. He patiently answered questions outside his home, then went inside.

Toast of the town



Angelina and Manuel De La Torre of East Hubbard Street, their children Amber and Manuel Jr., and their champagne.



...e and Julio Burgoin of East Hubbard Street, who helped capture the Stalker suspect, hold press conference on their front porch as reporters fire questions at them

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

New Stalker evidence sought

*Suspect's car found,
plea for gun issued*

By Mark S. Warnick
and Jeff Gottlieb
Herald staff writers

As jailers mounted watch outside the cell of Night Stalker suspect Richard Ramirez last night, authorities issued a dramatic appeal for public help in finding the handgun he may have discarded before his capture.

The small, dark weapon — possibly .22 or .25 caliber — may be a vital piece of evidence in some of the cases linked to the Night Stalker, said Lt. Dick Walls of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department.

"If we don't find it, it may be impossible to link some of the homicides to the suspect," Walls said.

Ramirez, who was run down and captured by an impromptu posse of East Los Angeles residents Saturday, is believed to have dropped the handgun as he fled, possibly while leaping a fence.

A small army of detectives scoured the alleys and byways of the Hollenbeck area for the gun yesterday, even closing off one lane of the Santa Ana Freeway. No weapon was found.

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LOS ANGELES, CA
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NEW STALKER EVIDENCE SOUGHT

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FBI — LOS ANGELES	

FBI/DC.

Ramirez, 25, is a suspect in the murders of 19 people and attempted murders of at least 29 others. His capture ended one of the largest manhunts in state history.

In other developments in the case yesterday:

■ A green Pontiac Grand Prix believed to have been driven by Ramirez was recovered by police in Los Angeles County. Deputies said the car was found in the 100 block of Avenue 23 in the Lincoln Heights area of Los Angeles.

■ A former roommate of Ramirez said he was obsessed by the lyrics of a heavy metal song called "Night Prowler" by a band whose music is known for its satanic overtones.

■ A city official revealed that Ramirez may have just returned from a trip "out of state" the morning of his capture.

Ramirez, who was being held without bail in the Los Angeles County Men's Central Jail, was under constant observation in a "high security area," said Los Angeles County Sheriff's Sgt. Michael Kenyon.

Ramirez is expected to be arraigned Wednesday by the Los Angeles district attorney's office, said Gil Garcetti, chief assistant district attorney.

Two homicide detectives from San Francisco were at the jail yesterday, presumably as part of the investigations into the killing of 66-year-old Peter Pan, shot to death during a nighttime attack in his San Francisco home. Pan's wife was shot in the head, but survived. No agency would confirm the purpose of the visit, but San Francisco homicide Inspector Frank Falzon said warrants from his jurisdiction for murder, attempted murder and burglary were served on Ramirez.

Authorities said they have not yet determined who owns the Pontiac recovered by police last night. "It may belong to Ramirez somehow," Walls said. "We don't have any record of it being stolen."

The car was spotted near the scene of a July 20 murder in the San Fernando Valley that police have linked to the Night Stalker. Reports that the Pontiac had been seen recently were not true, Walls said.

There was no immediate description of the gun police are seeking other than a "small, dark handgun." But some of the victims in Night Stalker attacks are known to have been shot with .22- and .25-caliber weapons.

Several people who saw Ramirez running through the Hollenbeck area say he had a gun, but he had none when captured. One of the witnesses was Salvador Sanchez, who said he saw a man with a gun in front of his house on Siskyou Street.

In San Francisco, a former roommate who has talked to police said Ramirez is obsessed with satanic rock.

Ray Garcia, 27, who says he roomed with Ramirez in August, said Ramirez was attracted to the satanic themes in a 1979 album called "Highway to Hell" by the Australian group AC/DC.

He said Ramirez was so involved in AC/DC music that he had painted or tattooed a pentagram — a symbol associated with devil worship — on the palm of one hand.

His favorite song, Garcia said, was "Night Prowler," the mocking lyrics of which include, "Was that a noise outside your window or a shadow on your blind? You lie there naked, like a body in a tomb, suspended animation as I slip into your room."

KABC-TV reported Saturday that pentagrams — a five-pointed star in a circle — have been spray-painted on the walls of some of the Night Stalker victims. Police have refused to confirm the report, which the station attributed to "confidential sources."

However, police had earlier confirmed that a baseball cap with an AC/DC logo was left behind by the killer of Dayle Okazaki, one of the first Night Stalker victims, in a Rosemead condominium March 17.

In another development, a Los Angeles city official told the Herald that investigators believe Ramirez had just returned from "out of state" on the morning of his capture.

Ramirez was unaware of the all-points bulletin for his arrest issued 12 hours earlier, the official said, and that's why he panicked when he saw his picture on newspaper

front pages Saturday morning.

A spokesman for the sheriff's department refused to comment on the report.

Ramirez was seen by a witness shortly after 8 a.m. buying a copy of La Opinion, the Spanish-language daily, in a liquor store at 8th and San Pedro Streets. Just a short walk away at 6th and Los Angeles streets is the Greyhound bus station.

A Greyhound dispatcher said several interstate buses arrived before 8 a.m. Saturday, including one at 7:45 a.m. from El Paso, Texas — Ramirez's hometown.

Investigators working on the Night Stalker case have been inaccessible to the press, and authorities have been reluctant to release any substantive information.

But yesterday there was an "interview opportunity" with Deputy Andres Ramirez, the young lawman who was the first to put handcuffs on the man police have been seeking for months.

Ramirez, 25, who works out of the department's East Los Angeles station, responded to a "fight in progress" call on Hubbard Street to find four angry residents holding an exhausted, bleeding man to the ground.

When he asked the man his name, the suspect replied simply, "Ricardo Ramirez," the deputy said.

There's no relation, he added with a smile.

"I checked with my mom and dad and we don't have any relatives in El Paso," Deputy Ramirez said.

Ray Garcia, who attended Jefferson High School in El Paso with Ramirez, remembers him as someone who was always in trouble. "He was always up to something," Garcia said. "We thought he was sick. He had this disease — everything he would stick to his hand. We called him Ricky the Klepto."

Ramirez was arrested three or four times on theft charges and "was always getting kicked out of school," Garcia recalled. Garcia described Ramirez as a loner in high school who constantly played video games. "The only time I ever saw him was at arcades and the 7-Eleven, where they had the machines," said Garcia.

He said Ramirez was also a "junk-food addict."

"All he would ever eat were chocolates and Pepsi," he said. "He'd never brush his teeth."

Surviving victims of the Night Stalker have described him as having very bad teeth.

Over the last two days, Garcia said, San Francisco police have extensively questioned Armando Rodriguez, 25, another El Paso classmate and longtime friend of Ramirez.

According to Garcia, it was Rodriguez who divulged Ramirez's identity to San Francisco detectives. He was among several people questioned by police at the El Sobrante home where Ramirez is believed to have stayed.

According to a source close to the San Francisco investigation, a search of the Appian Way home led to the discovery of a yellow plastic bag full of jewelry, including earrings, a pocket watch and a ring that Ramirez had left in payment for staying there.

The items are believed to have been stolen in a burglary in the San Francisco Mission District, close to the home of the murdered Peter Pan. A print lifted from inside the burglarized home was matched by crime lab technician Larry Dubour of San Francisco to another print lifted by Orange County sheriff's technicians from a 1976 Toyota used in an attack on a young couple in Mission Viejo two weeks ago.

Herald staff writer Chris Woodward and staff writers of the San Francisco Examiner contributed to this story.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Stalker Suspect Isn't Talking

**Ramirez Described as
Passive and Compliant**

By ROBERT W. STEWART
and DAVID FREED,
Times Staff Writers

Night Stalker suspect Richard Ramirez has remained silent during detectives' questioning about 16 slayings and 21 assaults that in recent weeks sowed fear from Mission Viejo to San Francisco, authorities told The Times on Sunday.

"He's not talking," one law enforcement source said of Ramirez, 25, who was chased, clubbed and captured Saturday by angry East Los Angeles residents after he allegedly tried to steal a car in their Hubbard Street neighborhood.

Ramirez, whose most distinctive feature is rotting teeth, was spotted about 12 hours after authorities identified him as the Night Stalker suspect and released a mug shot to newspapers and television stations.

Law enforcement officials who have observed the 6-foot, 1-inch, 155-pound suspect since his arrest described him Sunday as passive and compliant and said he has not confessed to the crimes.

Booked on suspicion of one unspecified murder, Ramirez is being held without bail in a high-security section of Los Angeles County Jail where he is under constant surveillance, a Sheriff's Department official said. Originally from El Paso,

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LOS ANGELES, CA.

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Edition Monday

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Ramirez has reportedly lived in the Los Angeles area in recent years.

Investigators from the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, which coordinated the investigation, met Sunday and will meet again today with officials of the Los Angeles County district attorney's office to "discuss what evidence they have and the specific charges that will be considered," said Chief Deputy Dist. Atty. Gilbert I. Garcetti.

He said he anticipates a decision on "what if any charges will be filed" by late Tuesday.

Based on the information available, Garcetti said, he anticipates that Ramirez will be charged with at least one crime, although he said he could not be more specific. Authorities are required to release a suspect or file charges after he has been held for two court days.

"There are some things they (investigators) are still working on, which by the time we make our decision they hope to have," Garcetti said, refusing to elaborate.

Deputy Dist. Atty. Philip Halpin of the special trials unit has been assigned to review the evidence and, if charges are filed, prosecute the case, Garcetti said. Halpin has been working for about a month with the law enforcement task force that has investigated the killings.

Meanwhile, the Sheriff's Department reported that one important bit of physical evidence has been

found and that another remains missing.

Ramirez's automobile, a green 1976 Pontiac, was found Sunday parked in the 100 block of East Avenue 23 in Lincoln Heights, a sheriff's spokesman said.

Another sheriff's spokesman asked the public's help in finding a pistol believed to belong to the suspect.

Sheriff's Lt. Dick Walls said neighbors who helped to capture Ramirez after a chase in East Los Angeles reported that he was carrying a small-caliber handgun of the type known to have been used in several of the Night Stalker murders.

That gun was not in Ramirez's possession when he was taken into custody, and a search by deputies armed with metal detectors failed to disclose any trace of it. Walls asked any person having knowledge of the weapon to call the sheriff's homicide division at (213) 974-4341.

Obsession With Song

A Northern California man who said he attended school with Ramirez in El Paso was quoted in Sunday's edition of the San Francisco Examiner as saying that Ramirez was obsessed with what he believed to be satanic themes in the music of the rock group AC/DC's 1979 album "Highway to Hell."

More than once, authorities said, they have found satanic symbols scrawled on walls in the homes of victims.

The classmate, Ray Garcia, 27, told the Examiner that Ramirez had either painted or tattooed a pentagram on the palm of one hand. A pentagram is a five-sided star believed by some to symbolize the devil's horns.

Garcia also described Ramirez as a "junk food addict."

"All he would ever eat were chocolates and Pepsi," Garcia was quoted as saying. "He would never brush his teeth. I used to tell him to close his mouth or brush his teeth."

The killings and assaults that authorities have attributed to the Night Stalker began early this year but were not publicly linked until Aug. 8. Most of the attacks occurred in the San Gabriel and San Fernando valleys, although the two most recent incidents occurred elsewhere.

Two Bodies Found

Police in Montclair, about 32 miles east of Los Angeles, said they are not discounting the possibility that the Night Stalker might have killed his 17th and 18th victims early Saturday, just hours before Ramirez's arrest.

The bodies of two men who had been shot to death were found in their home in the suburban San Bernardino County community after a party.

"There's been a whole lot of speculation," Sgt. Greg Flannery of the Montclair Police Department said of a possible connection. "We're not discounting it as being a possibility. We're also not pursuing

it as a sole (theory)," he added.

No satanic markings were found in the Montclair home, Flannery said.

Although most of the Night Stalker crimes occurred in Los Angeles County, authorities in Orange County suspect that the same person committed ~~an~~ Aug. 25 shooting and rape in Mission Viejo.

The man shot in that incident was reported in improved condition Sunday. A spokeswoman for Mission Community Hospital said that William Carns, 29, who had been in critical condition with a gunshot wound in his head, had been upgraded to "serious but stable condition" although he remained unconscious.

Fingerprints lifted from a stolen car spotted near the scene of the

Mission Viejo attack and found at the scene of a routine burglary in San Francisco on Aug. 15 led Los Angeles and San Francisco authorities to identify Ramirez as the Night Stalker suspect.

San Francisco police, who are taking credit for first identifying Ramirez, suspect him of at least one murder and a burglary in their community. San Francisco investigators arrived in Los Angeles on Sunday, said Deputy Mike Kenyon of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department. Kenyon said he does not know if they questioned Ramirez.

James G. Enright, Orange County's chief deputy district attorney, said Sunday that he expects that Los Angeles County authorities will make a decision on filing

criminal charges in their jurisdiction before contacting Orange County authorities about charges there.

No one was sure, meanwhile, who would get the \$70,000 reward offered for Ramirez's capture.

Various authorities have speculated that all the people who took part in the chase that led to his arrest might be eligible; others that it might belong to those who identified him or to individuals who physically restrained Ramirez before sheriff's deputies arrived.

It was suggested that the Sheriff's Department might have to make the decision.

Deputy Rick Adams of the sheriff's information bureau said Sunday night that no such determination had yet been requested.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Police elated over role of photo in capture

By [Name] Staff writer

A wanted poster in the Old West photo of Richard Ramirez, the authorities released led to his capture. The poster, which was posted in East Los Angeles, showed a man with a mustache and a goatee. Many people recognized him from the photo in newspapers and on television. He was a celebrity. The poster was posted on the wall of a house on Friday night. When the police arrived at the house yesterday to ask for the poster, she recognized him immediately.

"It's the killer. It's the killer," she screamed when she opened the door, which she quickly slammed.

But the law enforcement agencies searching for the suspected killer of 16 people earlier agonized whether their decision to release the photo was the right one. When Ramirez was captured, they were sure it was.

"That's the proof of the pudding," said Los Angeles police spokesman Cmdr. William Booth. At the Friday night news conference where Ramirez's name and photo were released, Los Angeles County Sheriff Sherman Block said there were "many soul-searching discussions" involving his agency.

Los Angeles police and the Orange County Sheriff's Department whether to release the photo.

"It's a decision that you make based on the circumstances in each individual case," Block said.

The photo of Ramirez, 25, was taken eight months ago when Los Angeles police arrested him for driving a stolen vehicle, authorities said.

Before investigators release a suspect's photo, they must decide whether it is worthwhile to let the public see the photo, and possibly identify the suspect, yet at the same time alert the suspect that authorities know who he is, Booth said.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state)

A-7 HERALD EXAMINER
LOS ANGELES, CA

Date: 9-1-85
Edition: Sunday

Title: POLICE ELATED OVER ROLE OF PHOTO IN CAPTURE

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FBI - LOS ANGELES	

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Richard Ramirez
In 1984 police mug shot

Night Stalker suspect caught in East L.A.

By Mark S. Warnick
Herald staff writer

After a dramatic pursuit that zigzagged through alleys and back yards over fences and brick walls, the man identified as the Night Stalker was captured yesterday by East Los Angeles residents who clubbed him as the "cheered and shouted 'el maton'" — the killer.

The arrest of 35-year-old Richard Ramirez at about 9:15 a.m. ended one of the most intensive manhunts in state history. He is suspected of killing as many as 16 people and assaulting at least 28 others.

"It's me! It's me!" Ramirez shouted as he was arrested. He was booked for murder at the Los Angeles County Jail yesterday afternoon and held without bail.

The two-mile chase, which included three unsuccessful attempts by Ramirez to steal vehicles, ended on a sidewalk in front of a house at 3732 Hubbard St., where residents held the suspect until a Los Angeles County sheriff's deputy arrived.

"We got him," Los Angeles police Cmdr. William Booth announced at the LAPD Hollenbeck station in East Los Angeles, where the suspect was held for nearly six hours before being jailed.

While Ramirez remained inside the station, more than 500 local residents stood outside in near 100-degree heat to cheer his arrest and to glimpse the suspect. They also cheered the arrival of Los Angeles Mayor Tom Bradley, who said, "Obviously all of us are very happy that Richard Ramirez has been captured. I'm so proud of law enforcement officials I can't begin to tell you."

The Night Stalker became the target of a multiagency task force involving officers from more than a half-dozen law enforcement agencies in Southern California and San Francisco. He is believed responsible for attacks inside at least 35 homes; all but two of them in Los Angeles County. One intrusion occurred in San Francisco, another in Mission Viejo in Orange County.

The Night Stalker's assaults occurred after he entered darkened

INDICATE PAGE, NAME OF
NEWSPAPER, CITY, AND STATE

A-1 HERALD EXAMINER
LOS ANGELES, CA
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Sunday

Title IT'S ME

Character

or

Classification

Submitting Office. Los Angeles

Indexing

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FBI - LOS ANGELES	

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...through unlocked doors or
...investigators said
...would not comment on
...reports that Ramirez was
...with a knife at the time of
...arrest.

...authorities also refused to com-
...on a KABC-TV report that the
...Stalker may have been
...by devil worship and per-
...Satanic rituals at many of
...murder scenes.

...Satanic activities included
...attempt to gouge out the eyes of
...victim and eating a meal of
...at the house of another,
...TV report said.

...Police announced last week that
...a baseball cap with the letters AC/
...embroidered on it was found at
...of the murder sites. AC/DC is a
...metal rock band whose
...singles make repeated reference to
...devil worship, and some say the
...stand for the words "Anti
...Devil's Child."

...ABC-TV said a five-pointed star
...ended inside a circle, a symbol
...devil worship, had been scrawled
...walls inside the homes. It also
...reported that police had matched a
...shoeprint found at the
...of several Stalker slayings to
...in the hills of Los Angeles
...where devil worshippers are
...known to congregate.

...Ramirez, described as a drifter,
...born in El Paso, Texas, and has
...in Los Angeles and San
...Francisco most of his adult life. His
...criminal record includes arrests for
...drug offenses and auto
...theft, but no violent crimes.

...He was arrested yesterday less
...than 12 hours after authorities
...identified him as the suspected Night
...Stalker. Police released a recent
...photograph of the suspect, which
...was published on the front page of
...newspapers and repeatedly
...on TV Friday night.

...Ramirez had been identified as
...the suspect through a fingerprint
...from a stolen car spotted at
...the Night Stalker's latest known



Police hold back a crowd that gathered at the LAPD's Hollenbeck station.

...attack last Sunday in Mission Viejo.

...Distribution of the photograph,
...taken eight months ago when Rami-
...rez was arrested by Los Angeles
...police for driving a stolen vehicle,
...played a major role in his capture,
...officials said. As he made his way
...through East Los Angeles yesterday
...morning, he was immediately rec-
...ognized by many people as the
...wanted Night Stalker, police and
...residents said.

...Authorities received their first
...call about Ramirez about 8:30 a.m.,
...after he was spotted inside Duke's
...Liquor Store, 818 S. San Pedro St.
...He was seen picking up a newspa-
...per, looking at his photograph and
...leaving immediately, said Cmdr.
...Booth. Police began conducting an
...intensive air and ground search at
...that time.

...He next was spotted about 8:42
...a.m., walking along the 800 block of
...Mott Street, less than three miles
...from Duke's Liquor Store.

...About 8:50 a.m., outside the
...Wyvernwood Market at Eighth and
...Evergreen streets, Ramirez picked
...up a copy of the Herald Examiner,
...again saw his photograph and left
...hurriedly, witnesses told Armando
...Lojero, the store's owner.

...Two people came in to ask for
...change to call police," Lojero said.
...They said they saw the Night
...Stalker.

...A few minutes later, Bonnie
...Navarro, 3668 1/2 Percy St., said
...Ramirez came to her front door,
...appearing severely dehydrated. He
...motioned with both hands against
...his throat as he asked in a deep
...voice for a drink of water, she said.
...He looked very tired," Navarro
...said. "He was all wet with sweat."
...As she looked at Ramirez, Na-
...varro recognized him from pictures
...she had seen on television Friday
...night, she said. She covered her
...eyes with her hands and started
...screaming: "It's the killer! It's the
...killer!"

... "I guess I scared him," Navarro
...said. "He ran away."
...On the last leg of his chase,
...Ramirez failed in three efforts to
...escape in stolen vehicles and by
...then was under pursuit by four
...men. Ramirez made a final desper-
...ate dash for freedom, but he was
...too tired.

...Within a minute, Ramirez
...stopped running, according to his
...pursuers — Manuel De La Torre,
...Jose Burgoin and two of Burgoin's
...sons Jaime, 21, and Julio, 17. The
...four men surrounded the ex-
...hausted suspect until the sheriff's
...deputy named, ironically,
...Andres Ramirez — arrived five
...minutes later.

...The accused Night Stalker was
...beaten by several of his pursuers

...before the deputy reached the
...scene. Jaime Burgoin said he
...slugged Ramirez in the face and
...La Torre said he again hit the
...suspect over the head with a metal
...rod.

... "I was angry," De La Torre said.
... "Naturally, I was very angry."

...Ramirez suffered a possible fra-
...ctured wrist and scrapes on his head
...during his struggle with pursuers,
...according to police. "He was a
...seriously injured," Booth said.

...During the chase, Ramirez
...dropped a backpack inside, accord-
...ing to witnesses, wore a leather
...jacket and a pair of binoculars.

...Those who saw Ramirez after his
...capture said he appeared extraor-
...dinarily tired. "He wanted to vomit
...from the exhaustion," said LAPD
...Sgt. Edward Esqueda, one of the
...first officers to reach the arrest
...scene.

...Although Ramirez was widely
...recognized from his photograph,
...many witnesses said even with-
...out knowing the Night Stalker's de-
...scription, Ramirez looked like some-
...one on the run. He was exhausted
...wet with perspiration, antsy, look-
...ing over his shoulder, they said.

...Ramirez's capture closed the
...Night Stalker investigation, auth-
...orities said, explaining they believe
...the suspect acted alone. Investiga-
...tors will continue, however, to
...study unsolved crimes for possi-
...ble links to Ramirez, said LAPD Lt. Dan
...Cooke.

...The case against Ramirez will be
...presented to the Los Angeles
...County District Attorney's Office
...early this week, authorities said.

...East Los Angeles residents gat-
...tered outside Hollenbeck Station
...appeared greatly relieved at the
...suspect's capture. The Night
...Stalker's seemingly random attack
...drove many people throughout
...Southern California in recent
...weeks to purchase guns and home
...security systems and organize
...neighborhood watch groups.

...After Bradley, a former LAPD
...lieutenant, lauded officers at the
...Hollenbeck Station yesterday after-
...noon, he pointed to the appreci-
...ative crowd and said, "These peo-
...ple are here to rejoice. California can
...breathe a sigh of relief."

...Also contributing to this story were
...Herald staff writers Chris Woodyard,
...Ruben Castaneda, Jesus Mena, Je-
...Gottlieb and Annette Haddad.

HERALD EXAMINER
LOS ANGELES, CA
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Editor: Sunday

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Chronology of killer's deadly spree

Time: CHRONOLOGY OF KILLER'S
DEADLY SPREE

Office: Los Angeles

By a Herald staff writer

Indexing

Here is a list of slayings and assaults linked to the Night Stalker by the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department and San Francisco police.

■ Feb. 8: The first attack later to be linked to the killer occurs. Authorities refuse to release any details.

■ March 17: Dayle Okazaki, 31, found shot to death in her brown Rosemead condominium on the 8500 block of Village Drive. Born in Hawaii, Okazaki, one of three children from a closely knit family, was an avid skier and was studying flower arranging and computer programming. She was killed around 11 p.m. A 25-year-old female roommate was wounded but survived.

■ March 17: Tsal-lan Yu, 30, of Monterey Park, was dragged from her car around midnight and shot repeatedly on the 500 block of Alhambra Avenue, about three-quarters of a mile from Okazaki's home. A law student, Yu lived with her family in Monterey Park.

■ March 26: Vincent Zazzara, 64, and Maxine Zazzara, 44, are found dead in their home on the 10200 block of Strong Avenue in Whittier. They were killed between 10:30 p.m. on March 26 and 6 a.m. on March 27. Zazzara was a retired investment counselor who liked to garden, and his wife was a Downey attorney who sang in a church choir. He had five children, she had one.

■ May 14: William Doi, 66, is shot and killed between 4 a.m. and 5 a.m. at his beige home on the 1500 block of Trumbower Street in Monterey Park. His wife is assaulted. Doi, a retired sales manager, had a heart attack three years ago and his wife had suffered a stroke. On May 13, they told neighbors they were buying a family van and looked forward to "living it up."

■ June 1: Mabel Close Bell, 83, is fatally bludgeoned in her beige home on the 400 block of North Alta Vista Avenue in Monrovia. Her invalid sister, Florence Lang, 80, survives the attack. Born in Kentucky and widowed at an early age, Bell worked as a secretary to support her two children. Called a "gutsy, independent old lady" by her friends, she clung to life for six weeks after the beating.

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June 28: Patty Elaine Higgins, 32, found dead with her throat slashed in her beige home on the 800 block of Naomi Avenue in Arcadia. The Arcadia special education teacher is discovered when she fails to show up for school. The attack occurred between midnight and 2 a.m. A dedicated teacher, Higgins was physically frail but with a "confidence, inner spirit and strength that was amazing," a colleague said.

July 2: Mary Cannon, 75, found in her transacked beige Arcadia home on the 300 block of Haven Avenue. The widow had been beaten and her throat slit. Born on a farm near Downey, Cannon had kept books for her husband, Darrel, a local horse trainer. She was looking forward to a trip to Australia with a senior citizens group.

July 5: A 46-year-old girl was attacked during a burglary of her Sierra Madre home on the 1100 block of Arno Drive shortly before 6 a.m. Her upper body was bludgeoned but she survived.

July 7: Joyce Nelson, 60, is shot to death between 2:30 a.m. and 10 a.m. at her beige home on the 300 block of Arlight Street in Monterey Park. A production line worker, the grandmother planned to retire next year so she could spend more time golfing. Weeks before she died, she told a friend concerned about her living alone that "people can't live their lives in fear."

July 20: Maxson Kneiding, 68, and his wife, Lela, 66, are shot to death in their home on the 1400 block of Stanley Avenue in Glendale between 1 a.m. and 2 a.m. Kneiding, a service station owner, was a deacon at the Glendale Seventh-Day Adventist Church. Mrs. Kneiding, a sports enthusiast, worked for a department store security force. The couple had been high school friends in Iowa and had three children and 13 grandchildren.

July 20: Chainarong Khovananth, 32, shot between 5 a.m. and 7 a.m. while asleep in his yellow home on the 13000 block of Schoenborn Street in Sun Valley. His wife, Somkid, and 8-year-old son survive beatings. The attacker flees with an estimated \$30,000 in money and jewelry. Khovananth, a parking lot attendant who emigrated from Thailand, was a quiet, friendly man who loved to spend hours gardening.

Aug. 6: Christopher Peterson, 38, and his wife, Virginia, 27, are shot in the head while sleeping in their Northridge home on the 1800 block of Acre Street. Their 4-year-old daughter is unharmed. Doctors say the Petersons released after 31 hours in the hospital, are lucky to be alive.

Aug. 8: Elyas Abowath, 35, shot to death in his beige home on the 21300 block of Pinehill Lane in Diamond Bar. His 28-year-old wife is raped and assaulted during the 2 a.m. attack. Their 3-year-old boy, Armez, and 3-month-old son, Aabdul, are uninjured. Abowath was a Pakistani immigrant who worked for a computer company, and friends described the couple as "wonderful people."

Aug. 13: The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors offers a \$10,000 reward for the capture of the nighttime attacker. The city of Arcadia earlier offered a \$5,000 reward.

Aug. 18: Peter Pan, 36, shot to death while sleeping in his Eucalyptus Avenue home in the Lake Merced district of San Francisco. His wife, Barbara, 24, also is struck and shot in the head, but survives. The attack is the first outside Southern California. Pan, an accountant at San Francisco General Hospital, and his wife, a bank clerk, had three children. Born in Taiwan, Pan was "very proud to be an American," said a friend, who also described him as a man who hated violence.

Aug. 22: San Francisco Mayor Dianne Feinstein reveals that ballistics tests link the killing of Pan and the wounding of his wife to the Night Stalker. Los Angeles County sheriff's officials decline to specify what Southern California slayings are linked to the killer. Feinstein announces a \$10,000 reward, increasing the fund to \$35,010, including \$10,010 offered earlier in the day by anonymous donors.

Aug. 23: Los Angeles County Sheriff Sherman Block announces that investigators have now tied 14 slayings to the Night Stalker, part of a chain of up to 33 attacks in Los Angeles County and San Francisco. The sheriff's department issues a statement indirectly criticizing Feinstein for revealing details of the case.

Aug. 25: William Carns, 29, is shot in the head three times while sleeping in his

light-brown Mission Viejo home on the 24400 block of Chrisanta Drive and critically wounded. His fiancée is raped. Carns, an engineer who moved from Williston, N.D., to California a year ago when offered a better-paying job, was described as a happy, outgoing man who enjoyed his profession.

Aug. 26: Los Angeles police say the kidnap-molestations of four children ages 6-9 may have been committed by the killer. Three of the children were taken from their beds, while one was abducted from a schoolyard. The incidents occurred in the San Gabriel Valley, where the killer first struck, or in adjacent northeast Los Angeles during the last six months.

Aug. 27: Authorities say a car seen near Carns' home the day of the attack is similar to a car stolen in Los Angeles' Chinatown, and ask the public's help in finding it. A new sketch of the Night Stalker is released, adding a baseball cap to the picture of the curly-haired man with gapped and discolored teeth.

Aug. 28: The stolen car is seized by police in downtown Los Angeles, more than 50 miles from the Mission Viejo attack, after a shop owner spots it. The Los Angeles City Council adds \$25,000 to the reward fund, bringing it to more than \$60,000.

Aug. 29: The number of slayings is increased to at least 16, and a forensic expert said unidentified fingerprints were found in a stolen car believed used in the killer's latest attack. A mass-distribution police flier says 17 slayings are now blamed on the Night Stalker. Los Angeles police Cmdr. William Booth said one of the 17 homicide victims on the new list is actually William Carns of Mission Viejo, who was shot in the head Aug. 25 and remained in critical condition. The reward mushrooms to \$70,000 when the state adds \$10,000.

Aug. 30: Authorities in Los Angeles and San Francisco announce that Richard Ramirez, 25, an unemployed man, is being sought for questioning in the Night Stalker slayings. It is determined that eight of the 16 known slayings occurred on weekends.

A LOOK AT CALIFORNIA'S SERIAL MURDERERS

The following is a list of recent serial murderers — and one accused such murderer — in the Los Angeles area:

The Sunset Strip Killer

Douglas Daniel Clark, 37, was sentenced in 1983 to the gas chamber for the 1980 sex-thrill murders of six young women — runaways and prostitutes from the Sunset Strip — and is awaiting execution.

The Freeway Killer

So called because he preyed on hitchhikers, William G. Bonin was convicted of the sex killings of 12 young men and boys in Los Angeles County between August 1975 and June 1980. Bonin, now 38, was sentenced to die for these crimes in 1981, then given a second death sentence in Orange County in 1983 for the deaths of four young men.

The Skid Row Stabber

Bobby Joe Maxwell, now 35, was convicted of two of the 10 ritualistic murders he said he committed to "put souls out of their misery." The killings took place in 1978 and 1979. Maxwell was given a life sentence in 1984.

The Skid Row Slasher

Another Skid Row killer, Norman Bernard, a 32-year-old drifter, pleaded guilty to killing three transients in the fall of 1983 because "he felt sorry for them." He received a life sentence without possibility of parole.

The Hillside Strangler

So dubbed because the victims' bodies were dumped on Los Angeles-area hillsides, the grisly killings took place between October 1977 and February 1978. At least 10 young women were kidnapped, raped and murdered. Glendale upholsterer Angelo Buono, now 50, was convicted of the 10 murders in 1983 and given a life sentence without the possibility of parole. His cousin, Kenneth Bianchi, who testified against Buono, pleaded guilty to five of the hillside murders and to two murders of young women in Bellingham, Wash., in 1979. Bianchi, who is now 33, was given two consecutive life sentences in Washington and five concurrent life sentences — which he is now serving — in California.

The Trash Bag Murders

Patrick W. Kearney, then 37, was given a

life sentence in Riverside County in 1977 for the homosexual killings of three men. The bodies of most of the 15 victims in the case were found in trash bags left along the sides of highways. Authorities said Kearney might have killed as many as 28 people. Kearney was given a second life sentence — to be served concurrently — in Los Angeles County in 1978 for 18 more deaths.

Randy Kraft

Kraft is also accused of being a "freeway killer" but never received a moniker by the press. The 39-year-old computer programmer from Long Beach was arrested in May 1983 by the California Highway Patrol for erratic driving. On the seat next to him was the body of a Marine who was apparently beaten to death by Kraft. He faces a December 1985 trial in Orange County on 16 counts of murder involving young men in their late teens and early 20s, dating back to 1972. He was also indicted in Michigan on two murder charges and police have linked him to six slayings in Oregon.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Fugitive takes a road to nowhere Angry residents hunt him down

By Robert Castaneda,
Jaime Mons
and Chris Woolyard
Herald staff writers

In the end, there was no place left to run.

Richard Ramirez, the man police say is the Night Stalker, was hunted down by the people of East Los Angeles, angry people wielding metal bars and pruning shears.

Terrified, panting, dripping sweat, Ramirez ran and stumbled through the streets of the Hollenbeck district, begging for water at one house, abandoning his knapsack at another.

Everywhere he turned, alert eyes followed. Until the moment he was finally cornered, cowed and exhausted, on a neighborhood street, the fugitive was seldom out of sight.

It was a capture worthy of American folklore, likely to become an East Side legend.

"I went after him because he was messing in my neighborhood," one of his captors, Jaime Burgoin, explained simply.

In the dramatic end, four people — two of them Mexican immigrants — stood over Ramirez as he slumped, bleeding against a chain-link fence until sheriff's deputies arrived to handcuff the man they had sought for six months as the slayer of 16 people.

Among the captors were Jaime's father, 54-year-old Jose; his brother, Julio, 17; and a neighbor, Manuel De La Torre, 36, who told Ramirez

INCLUDE DATE, NAME OF
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LOS ANGELES, CA
Date 9-1-85
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Title FUGITIVE TAKES A ROAD TO
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2528-1-68

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Case Continued from A-1

looking from left to right and behind him.

with a steel bar.

On Aug. 31 on the East Side of Navarro, 33, of 3666 1/2 Percy St. Los Angeles, Richard Ramirez had answered a knock on the door to no shortage of enemies.

If he didn't know already, Ramirez learned early yesterday that he was a wanted man. The suspect, both hands against his throat as he grabbed a copy of the Herald with a look of a man in a deep voice for his face splashed across the page as a drink of water.

He passed the Wyvernwood Market. He looked very tired. He was all at Eighth Street and Evergreen way with sweat. She recognized Avenue, the owner said. He didn't know instantly. She covered her eyes better to pay.

Maria Victoria 54, who lives on the Hill. It's the Hill. And I nearby Garnet Street looked out to see a man resting on her front porch. He said nothing, but when

next door, where resident James Romero was watering her lawn. He asked a Spanish. What flower.

streets your house is. She said. He turned the corner swiftly.

Henry Villa 61 never saw Ramirez. But in his back yard he found a dark blue bag, apparently dropped

by the fugitive. Inside were a pair of binoculars. Villa noticed that his aluminum ladder had been tipped against a wall fronting the Santa Ana Freeway.

On the north side of the freeway, Martin Areas, 42, heard a thud behind him. He turned and saw a man land on a car hood after jumping from the freeway barrier. He wasn't wearing a shirt and was carrying a bag.

"He looked like he was tired," said Areas. "He was sweating. I didn't see him for very long. He ran down the alley."

Hilda Aleman, at 2542 Seventh St., is very precise about the time she first heard her Doberman, Champ, growling behind her house. It was 8:15 a.m. — she looked at the clock. She saw a man dressed in a black shirt and pants, with dark sunglasses, lurking near her son's truck.

He said to the dog, "Shut up! I'm tired," she said. "The man was huffing and puffing and his hair was all wet with sweat."

The man jumped over the fence, then headed hurriedly east on Seventh Street. Salvador Chavez, 38, said he spotted the suspect just east of his home at 2558 Siskiyou St.

"I saw this man dressed in black. He looked very nervous. He was

A little before 9 a.m., Bonnie

She said the man motioned with both hands against his throat as he

He looked very tired. He was all at Eighth Street and Evergreen way with sweat. She recognized Avenue, the owner said. He didn't know instantly. She covered her eyes better to pay.

When Ramirez rounded Indiana Street to head north, he came

across a woman in a parked car. He pulled a knife on the lady.

Arruro Benavidez, who watched from his barbershop. He said, "Give me the car." She yelled.

Benavidez, joined by another man, chased the man down a graffiti-lined alley. At the end of the block, Ramirez hopped a 6-foot-high brick wall into a yard on Percy Street.

"El maton, el maton!" — the killer, the killer — Maria Cortez yelled from her front porch.

Her son, nephew and a neighbor chased the man out of the yard, one of them waving a large pair of pruning shears.

The chase came to an explosive end on Hubbard Street. Ramirez jumped over a fence

into the back yard of 55-year-old Phastino "Tino" Pinon, who was working on his red 1965 Mustang. The newly painted car's motor was running. A tall, dark-haired figure leaped into the Mustang.

Pinon said, "Hey, get out of there," said Pinon. "He said, 'No, I have a gun.'"

As Pinon jumped into the car, Ramirez shifted into reverse. As if in a car-chase movie, Pinon leaped into the car and began struggling with Ramirez over the wheel as his feet were dragged

along the grassy yard.

The Mustang reversed into the driveway, slammed into the wall of Pinon's home, then lurched forward and crashed into a tree.

The driver's door swung open and Ramirez fell out of the car.

"We rolled around once, then he took off," Pinon said.

Ramirez hurdled the gate of Pinon's home, then ran toward a copper-colored Granada parked on the opposite, south side of Hubbard Street.

Angelica De La Torre, 29, was on her way to buy gifts for her 3-year-old daughter's birthday. She was just starting the car when a man grabbed her and pulled her out.

"I saw his eyes, and I knew it was him," she said.

Jose Burgoin, 54, a retired construction worker, had been watering his plants across the street. He dropped his hose and raced across the street. He managed to pull Ramirez from the car, and the two men tumbled to the ground.

Manuel De La Torre, Angelica's husband, pulled a steel rod from his chain-link gate and went for Ramirez, striking him in the back of the head.

Ramirez fled west, with De La Torre and Burgoin in pursuit. Jaime and Julio Burgoin also gave chase.

Suddenly, the fugitive seemed to run out of gas.

"He kind of stopped," Jaime Burgoin said.

Jaime reached him first and unloaded with his right fist.

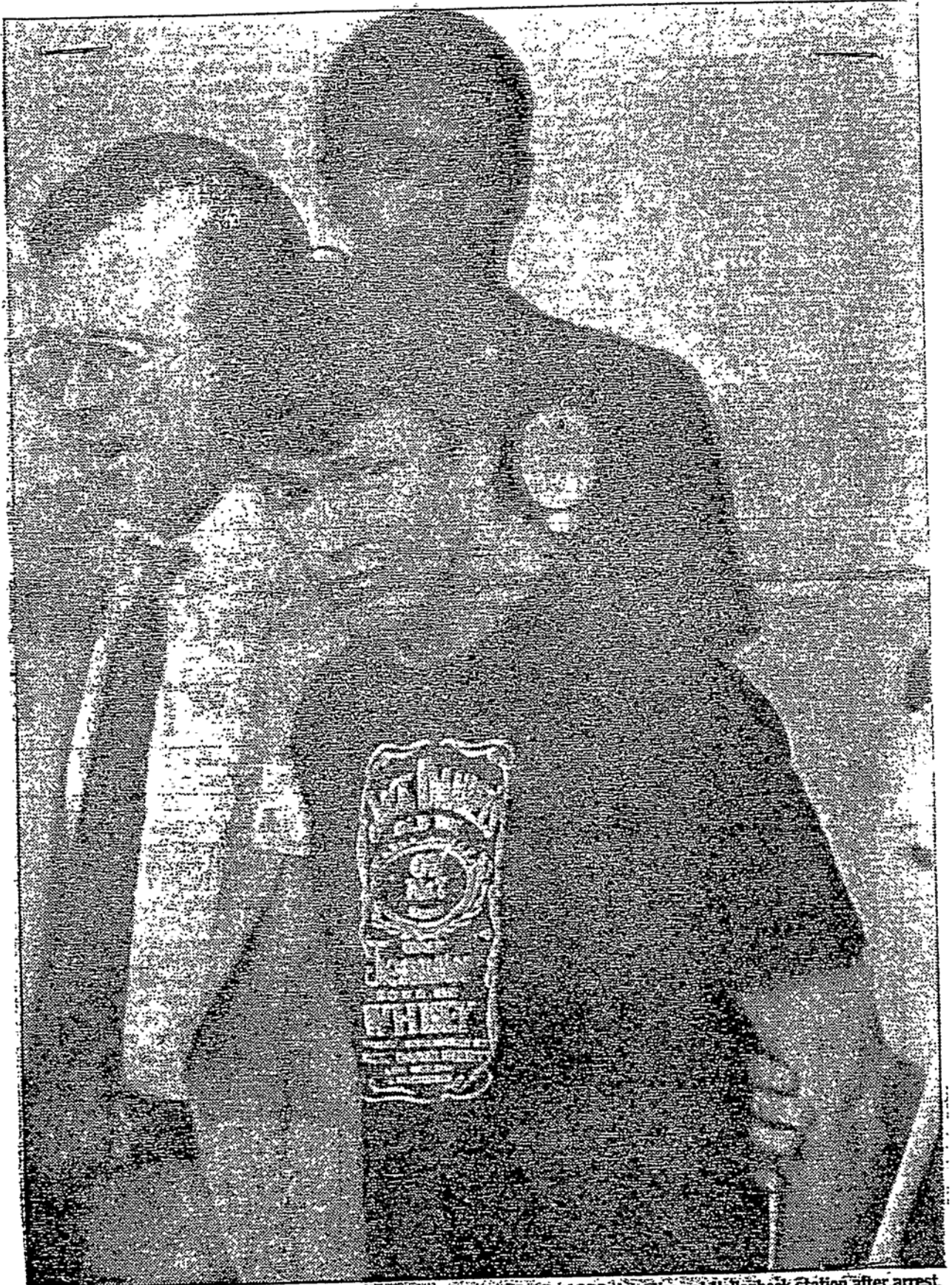
"I hit him and he went down pretty good, if I do say so myself," he said.

When an incensed De La Torre arrived, he struck the back of Ramirez's head once or twice with the metal rod.

Jose Burgoin and Manuel De La Torre are Mexican immigrants and speak little English. Jaime and Julio Burgoin were born in the U.S.A. and are bilingual. None of them knew immediately who it was that was leaning against the chain-link fence, exhausted and dazed.

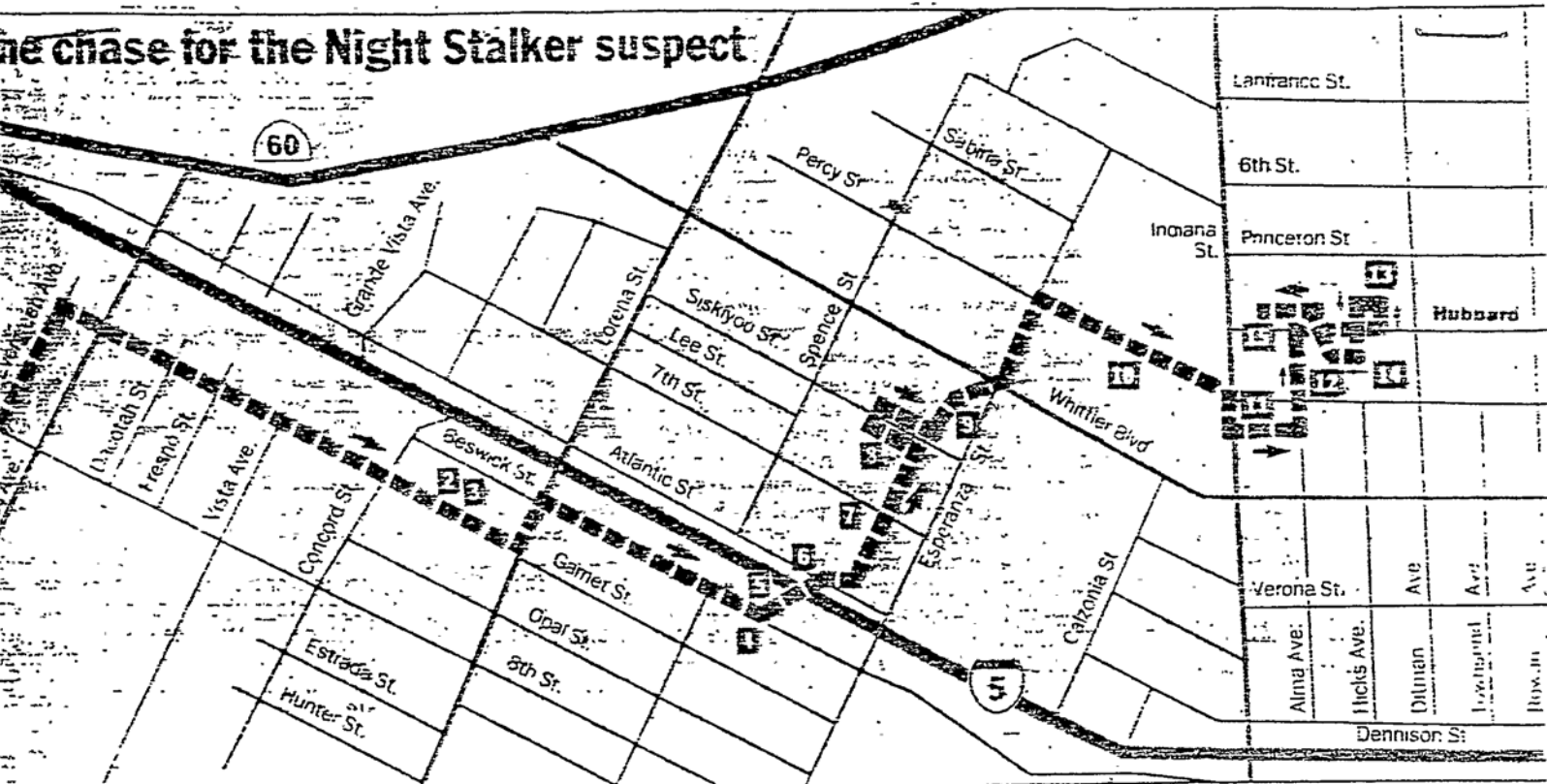
It was only when someone in the growing crowd pointed out photos of Ramirez in newspapers that the four realized whom they had captured.

"I hope the fear for everyone was new," Jose Burgoin said.



25-year-old Richard Ramirez, his face bruised, is escorted to booking by LAPD detectives at Hollenbeck Station after arrest.

chase for the Night Stalker suspect



Key:

Ramirez buys Herald; sees picture, panics.
 Rests on step of Mane Victoria's house.
 Asks Frances Romero 'What street am I on?'

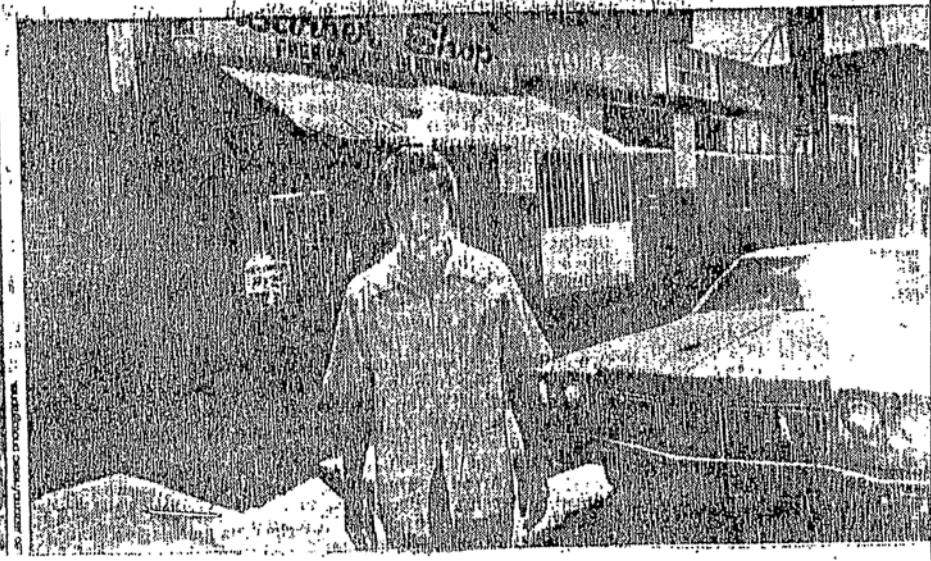
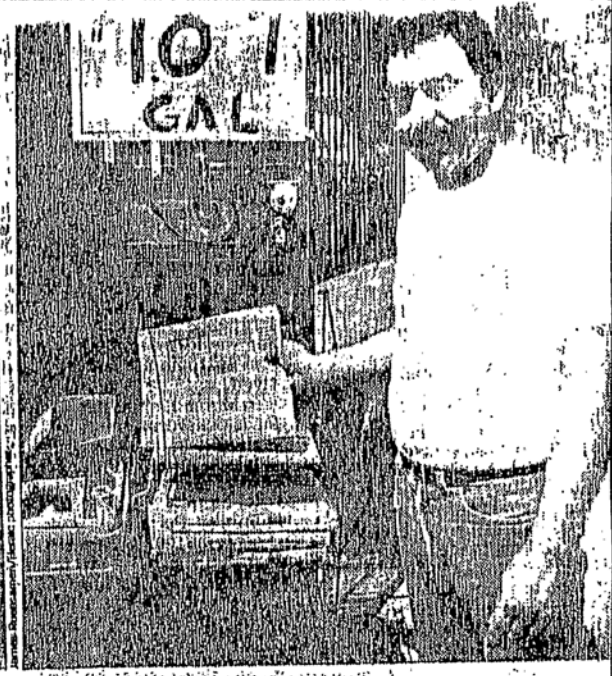
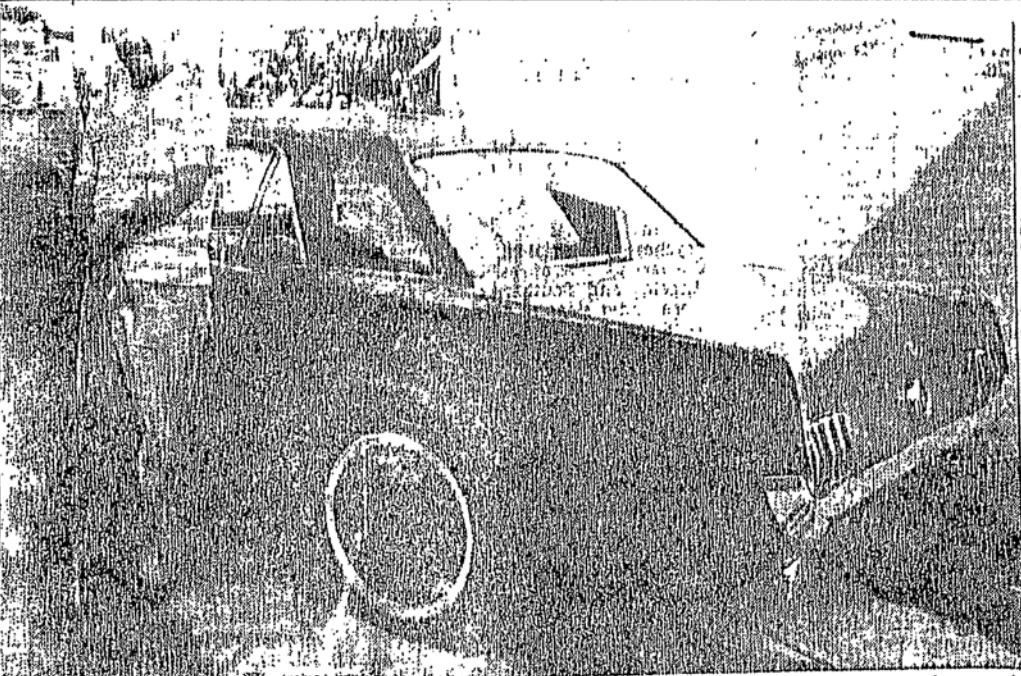
- 1 Discards knapsack in Henry Villa's yard.
- 2 Uses Villa's ladder to climb freeway wall.
- 3 Marun Areas sees Ramirez leap second wall.
- 4 Hilaa Aleman's dog foils car-theft attempt.

- 8 Salvador Chavez sees man with gun in street.
- 9 Chased out of gate by Johnny Morales' big dog.
- 10 Asks for drink; flees when Bonnie Navaro screams.
- 11 Tries to steal car. Chased by Arturo Benavidez.

- 12 Maria Cortez screams 'Ei Maton!' (The killer!)
- 13 Tries to steal Phastino Pino Mustang.
- 14 Tries to steal Angelica De la Torre's Granada.
- 15 Pursued and captured by a neighbors



Police station after confrontation with Suspect



left are
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Police Identify Stalker Suspect

25-Year-Old L.A. Man Named in Seven-Month Spree of Killings

By DAVID FREED
and CAROL MC GRAW,
Times Staff Writers

An all-points-bulletin was issued late Friday for Richard Ramirez, 25, of Los Angeles, suspected of being the "Night Stalker," whose seven-month career of kidnapping, rape and murder has spread fear from Orange County to San Francisco.

In a press conference held late Friday night at the Hall of Justice in Los Angeles Civic Center, Los Angeles County Sheriff Sherman Block, Los Angeles Police Chief Daryl Gates and Orange County Sheriff Brad Gates said Ramirez has a "lightweight" criminal background—including conviction for drug possession and driving an automobile without the owner's permission. But now he is considered "armed and dangerous," Block said.

The suspect was identified through fingerprints by the multi-agency task force searching for the killer. Authorities Friday released a photograph taken Dec. 12, 1984, at the time of Ramirez' arrest by Los Angeles police on suspicion of driving a stolen vehicle.

Resembles Drawing

The photo bears a striking resemblance to the composite drawing of a curly-haired man with yellow, gapped teeth on the official flyer for the night-prowling killer now blamed for at least 16 murders and two dozen rapes, assaults and other crimes.

The law enforcement officials said Ramirez is Latino, 6 feet, 4 inch tall, weighing 155 pounds, with black hair and brown eyes.

His most notable physical characteristic, they added, is "extreme decay" of his upper and lower



Night Stalker suspect Richard Ramirez, in police photograph

teeth—an item also mentioned by several of the Night Stalker's surviving victims.

According to police records, Block said, Ramirez was born in El Paso, Tex., but has spent most of his adult life in Los Angeles and San Francisco, where he is known to have used the aliases "Richard Moreno," "Noah Jimenez," "Nicholaus Adem," "Richard Munoz," and "Richard Mena."

Block said authorities are also searching for Ramirez' automobile, a green, 1976 Pontiac Grand Prix bearing California license number 1LFA 239.

"We are satisfied," the sheriff said, "that we now know the identification of the individual known as the Night Stalker. All

Please see STALKER, Page 23

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

1-1 LOS ANGELES TIMES
LOS ANGELES, CA

Date: 6-31-85
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Title: POLICE IDENTIFY STALKER
SUSPECT

Character:
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police agencies in California and surrounding states have been notified.

He said the photograph was issued and the suspect publicly identified—a contradiction of usual police and sheriff's policies—in the interest of public safety.

Addressing a sentence directly to Ramirez, Block added:

"You cannot escape. Every law officer and every citizen now knows exactly what you look like and who you are."

Task force investigators said it was fingerprints lifted from a Toyota station wagon that was stolen in Chinatown and found abandoned Tuesday in Los Angeles that led to positive identification of the suspect as Ramirez.

The Toyota had been spotted earlier in Orange County, near the scene of the most recent Stalker attack last Sunday.

Authorities believe that the Stalker last struck early that morning in a home in Mission Viejo. There, 29-year-old William Carns was shot three times in the head by an intruder who also raped Carns' 29-year-old girlfriend.

Carns remained in critical but

slightly improved condition Friday night in a Mission Viejo hospital.

A witness in the neighborhood where the attack took place reported seeing an orange Toyota station wagon, but was able to remember only a partial license plate number of 482 T.

On Tuesday morning, an orange Toyota station wagon bearing the license plate 482 RTS was found abandoned in a lot at Chapman

A growing number of Monterey Park residents have joined a police "Night Watch" unit in the effort to catch the Night Stalker. Part II, Page 1.

Park, a small shopping center at 6th Street and Alexandria Avenue in the Rampart area of Los Angeles, a resident notified police.

Detectives watched the car from hidden positions until after dawn Wednesday, hoping that whoever stole the Toyota would return. No one did.

The car was taken by flatbed truck Wednesday morning to Orange County, where sheriff's officials used a state-of-the-art laser and Superglue fumes to highlight fingerprints—even those that may have been partially wiped clean.

Larry Ragel, commander of the Orange County Sheriff's Forensic Science Services Division, reported that criminalists had

found "good" prints on the car that did not match those of the car's owner, carpenter Bill Gregory of West Hollywood.

The prints were fed into the sheriff's computerized fingerprint file, which produced about 100 fingerprint sets bearing similarities to those lifted from the car. Officials said they also intended to send the lifted prints to the state Department of Justice, which has more than 1 million sets of fingerprints on file.

"It's a long process to look at 100 prints by hand," Ragel said.

But the process was successful late Friday.

The murderer, whose victims have ranged from children to octogenarians, enters private residences in the early morning hours through unlocked windows or doors, authorities say. He immediately shoots any adult males in the home and then attacks the female occupants.

Some of the victims were strangled, others had their throats slashed. The majority were shot with either a .22-caliber revolver or a .25-caliber automatic.

Police have blamed the Night Stalker for 16 slayings in Rosemead, Monterey Park, Whittier, Monrovia, Arcadia, Glendale, Sun Valley, Diamond Bar, the Lake Merced district of San Francisco, Mission Viejo—and in two Los Angeles area locations not yet officially identified.

He was also blamed for the kidnap-molestations of four children in the San Gabriel Valley.

Times staff writers Steve Harvey, Deborah Hastings, Nancy Skelton and Ted Thackrey Jr. contributed to this article.



Police artist's sketch of suspect in Night Stalker slayings.

Stalker suspect named

*He's from Texas,
uses five aliases
and is still at large*

By Mark S. Warnick
Herald staff writer

The Night Stalker was identified by authorities last night as Richard Ramirez, 25, a man known to use at least five aliases and who was still at large when the announcement was made.

He was believed to be driving a green 1976 Pontiac Grand Prix with the California license plate 1LFA239.

Ramirez was identified through fingerprints found in a stolen automobile investigators believe was used in Mission Viejo Sunday in the latest Night Stalker attack.

The suspect was described as 6-foot-1, 155 pounds, with black hair, brown eyes and badly stained, decayed teeth. His description resembles composite drawings of the suspected Night Stalker, earlier dis-

Complete page, name of
newspaper, city and state,
A-1 HERALD EXAMINER
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Authorities released a photograph of Ramirez, who also uses the names Richard Mena, Richard Moreno, Richard Munoz, Noah Jimenez and Nicholas Adame, authorities said.

He has a previous record of minor drug offenses and auto thefts, said Los Angeles County Sheriff Sherman Block.

"He does not appear to have been involved in any crimes of significant violence," before the Night Stalker attacks, Block said.

Block, Los Angeles Police Chief Daryl Gates and Orange County Sheriff Brad Gates announced the identification of the Night Stalker at a joint news conference last night. The announcement also was made in San Francisco during a simultaneous news briefing there. Ramirez was born in El Paso,

Texas, and has lived in both Los Angeles and San Francisco, officials said.

The Night Stalker is believed responsible for as many as 36 attacks during the last seven months. All but two of the incidents occurred in Los Angeles County.

Identification of the suspect was made after Los Angeles police recovered a stolen station wagon spotted at the scene of the Mission Viejo assault. Orange County forensics specialists — utilizing such disparate tools as a laser beam and Superglue — found fingerprints inside the car not matching those of the vehicle's owner.

Investigators yesterday began a hand-by-hand comparison of 100 sets of fingerprints similar to one lifted from the stolen car.

The Night Stalker has been the target of a massive manhunt headed by the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department. The multi-agency task force includes more than a half-dozen law enforcement agencies.

The three dozen attacks linked to the killer have prompted strong reactions from frightened residents throughout Southern California and the Bay Area. Citizens have purchased guns, installed home-security systems and organized in neighborhood groups in recent weeks as publicity about the suspect's crime spree heightened.

Law enforcement agencies have reported receiving thousands of tips from citizens who said they thought they had spotted the suspect.

Identification of the Night Stalker came on the same day Los Angeles police began statewide distribution of a detailed flier about the suspect. Copies of the flier are expected to go primarily to retail outlets and gas stations.

Attacks believed committed by the Night Stalker date back to Feb. 8, according to investigators. The suspect enters darkened homes through unlocked doors or windows and immediately attacks the occupants.

Rewards for information leading to the killer's arrest and conviction total more than \$70,000.

"Look, the guy's got to buy gas," said Scott Loll, a spokesman for Atlantic Richfield Co., which is distributing the flier to its stations. "If we have one flier available, maybe the guy will come in and someone will recognize him."

All major oil companies in Southern California are cooperating in the flier's release, Loll said, adding that interest in posting information about the suspect is extremely high.

"Some stations have already cut out the Night Stalker's mug shots from newspapers and posted them themselves," Loll said. "This is something of great public concern to everybody."

The suspect's latest attack in Mission Viejo prompted the Orange County Sheriff's Department earlier this week to increase the number of patrol units in the field. Sheriff Brad Gates said yesterday the department would further bolster its patrol efforts to meet continued concern among residents.

"In order to lessen the fear and anxiety caused by the Night Stalker, we have increased seven more the patrol units and personnel in the unincorporated areas," Gates said.

Since the incident, Orange County residents have flooded the sheriff's department with calls about possible Night Stalker sightings, according to officers. Thursday night, the department responded to 107 calls about suspicious activity, Lt. Dick Olson said. Before last weekend's assault, the department averaged from three to five such calls a night, he said.

The Guardian Angels yesterday announced a house-sitting program for frightened Orange County residents. The organization's members planned to spend the night in 48 homes in the area, said the group's founder, Curtis Sitwa.

Guardian Angels earlier this week began a similar house-sitting program in the San Gabriel Valley, where most of the suspect's killings have occurred.

In San Francisco, where a Night Stalker slaying occurred two weeks ago, police have received about 100 calls a day from citizens with tips on the case and questions about home security, said Cmdr. Frank Jordan.

His department has added 70 plain-clothed officers to nighttime patrol duty since the attack in the Bay Area, and has distributed information about the suspect throughout the area, Jordan said.

"We're not going to reduce any of our patrols until he's in custody

or we know for certain he's not coming back to this area," Jordan said. "We feel as long as he's at large, and as mobile as he is, we're not taking any chances."

At least half of the murders linked to the Night Stalker have occurred on weekends, as have five of his last six attacks, but authorities are not commenting on a possible pattern regarding the days

of the suspect's brutal assaults.

Investigators said yesterday increased police patrols and the widespread search for Ramirez would continue through the Labor Day holiday, and that no special added measures are necessary to prevent a weekend attack.

"We're already geared up to the maximum," said sheriff's depart-

ment spokesman Deputy Bob Stoneman. "Nothing's changing for us as far as what day it is."

Eight of the 14 killings detailed by investigators took place on a Friday, Saturday or Sunday. No information has been released on two other murders added to the suspect's death toll earlier this week.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

LAPD Adds 2 to Stalker's Victim List — It's 16 Now

By DAVID FREED and CAROL MCGRAW,
Times Staff Writers

Two murders that occurred in Los Angeles County as early as February were linked by authorities Thursday to the Night Stalker, bringing to 16 the number of slayings that investigators have attributed to the tall, thin serial killer.

The disclosure of additional cases came in a printed bulletin issued by the Los Angeles Police Department, which is participating in a multiagency task force of more than 50 officers hunting the killer.

Police said they plan to distribute thousands of copies of the one-page bulletin to gas stations and other retail businesses throughout California to better alert the public and generate more tips on the elusive killer.

Occurred Outside Los Angeles

Authorities would provide no details on the two additional slayings, except to say that both occurred outside the Los Angeles city limit and that at least one dated back to February.

A source close to the investigation said the two murders may have occurred in Altadena and Long Beach. However, a police detective in Long Beach and a sheriff's sergeant in Altadena said they could not immediately recall any cases in their respective jurisdictions that might be connected to the Stalker.

Los Angeles County Assistant Sheriff Robert A. Edmonds, whose department is coordinating the task force, said, "We are satisfied that the 14 are linked. LAPD has decided there are . . . additional (cases) based on their analysis. We don't disagree. We feel they may be linked."

It was previously thought that the Stalker killed his first victim on March 17 in Rosemead, where Dayle Okazaki, 34, was shot to death in the kitchen of her condominium.

Source: Name of
newspaper, city and state

I-1 LOS ANGELES TIMES
LOS ANGELES, CA

Date 8/30/85
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Title LAPD ADDS 2 TO STALKER'S
VICTIM LIST - IT'S 16 NOW

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FBI/DOJ

Use of Handguns Confirmed

The Police Department's bulletin confirmed that some who have died were shot with .22-caliber and .25-caliber handguns. Others have been fatally stabbed, slashed and bludgeoned.

Officials have also blamed the Stalker for at least 21 other assaults, rapes and kidnappings since February.

The police bulletin, without elaborating, revealed that the Stalker may have slightly different hair than that depicted on a composite drawing widely circulated throughout the state. His hair, authorities now believe, may be less curly than shown and may be parted.

In addition, authorities now believe that the Stalker has used imported, presumably stolen, station wagons "on several occasions" to drive to the homes that he enters at night through open windows and doors to attack his sleeping victims.

Meanwhile, Orange County officials confirmed Thursday that they have found fingerprints on an orange 1976 Toyota station wagon that the Stalker may have stolen and then driven Sunday to Mission Viejo in Orange County.

A witness reported seeing a Toyota wagon, similar to the one stolen, in the Mission Viejo neighborhood where 29-year-old William Carns was shot in the head and his fiancée raped early Sunday by an intruder. The car later was found abandoned in the parking lot of a health food store near 6th Street and Alexandria

Avenue in the Rampart District of Los Angeles.

J. Larry Ragel, commander of the Orange County Sheriff's Department's Forensic Science Services Division, said criminalists on Thursday found "good" prints on the car using a laser-examining device and other state-of-the-art methods. The prints apparently do not match those of the car's owner.

Ragel said the Orange County sheriff's fingerprint computer, which holds fingerprint sets for 13,000 people, printed out 100 sets that bear similarities to those lifted from the car. Ragel declined to indicate whether any of the computer-filed fingerprints matched the ones discovered Thursday.

He said the lifted prints also would be sent to the state Department of Justice, which has more than 1 million sets of fingerprints on file.

Authorities late Tuesday had

requested the public's help in finding the Toyota station wagon, which had been stolen Saturday night in Chinatown. On Wednesday morning, Los Angeles police reported that the stolen car had been located at about 7 a.m. that day.

What police did not say was that they actually were notified of the car's location Tuesday morning by a telephone tip and that detectives watched the car from hidden positions throughout the day and night without success to see if the person who stole it might return.

Police spokesman Cmdr. William Booth insisted Thursday that authorities were not attempting to deceive the public—even though the request for help in finding the car went out 12 hours after police found it.

"There's no time discrepancy," Booth insisted. "We did seize that car at about 7 a.m. We will not discuss any other activity of the

seizure . . . because (it) may be suggestive of tactics we may use in the future."

Jon Quinn Jr., who runs a health food store in Chapman Park, a small shopping center at 6th and Alexandria, where the car was found, said he first noticed it in the parking lot when he came to work Monday morning.

License Plates Noted

Quinn said he regularly takes down the license plates of all cars in the lot because of illegal parking problems and because stolen cars have been dropped off there before. On Tuesday morning, the Toyota was still parked there, he said, and a neighbor notified police. About 20 officers arrived around 11 a.m. by car and helicopter.

"They decided they didn't want to cordon off the area and called their men off," Quinn said. "Then they left four plainclothesmen to stake it out."

Quinn said he went about his business as usual, selling vitamins and produce, stocking his shelves.

"Actually, I felt safer than ever,

because the neighborhood had all that protection," he said.

He said he had not seen anyone resembling the "Stalker" in the neighborhood.

In another development, police said there is no evidence indicating that Thursday's early morning slaying of an unidentified woman in the City of Orange was related to the string of Stalker assaults.

Although homicide investigators would not be specific about what evidence may rule out a connection to the serial killer, one said, "the crime scene, overall," in Orange eliminates any connection.

Police Lt. Mike Leintz said that at about 5 a.m., a woman in the northeast area of the Orange County city called police and reported that "she heard a screaming female knocking on her door." After telephoning police, the woman answered the door and found the woman's nude body in a flower bed, Leintz said.

Staff Writers Mark Landsbaum and David Palermo in Orange County contributed to this article.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

How police found stolen car linked to mass killer

By Chris Woodyard
Herald staff writer

A beer-drinking man matching the description of the Night Stalker was reported to police Monday by employees of a Wilshire-area bar two blocks west of where the car believed used by the killer was found the next day.

Employees at the Dragon Lady bar at Sixth Street and Normandie Avenue called police when they noted the man's resemblance to the composite drawing of the Night Stalker. But they said the man boarded a bus 25 minutes later, about five minutes before officers arrived.

A day later, a swarm of police cars converged on the parking lot of the Chapman Park Market at Sixth Street and Alexandria Avenue after a citizen reported seeing the orange 1976 Toyota station wagon believed used by the Night Stalker in an attack Sunday in Mission Viejo.

But the officers — and the circling police helicopter overhead — soon departed after a health-food store owner told them the car had been parked there more than one day.

Two detectives posted themselves in an upstairs office of a Christian bookstore

to watch the car Tuesday afternoon in hopes that the killer would return. When the attempt failed, the car was towed away at 7 a.m. Wednesday and police announced that it had been found.

Police spokesman Cmdr. William Booth said he was unaware of the possible sighting at the bar of a man resembling the composite sketch.

"If (that's) accurate and everyone's accurate, we would have liked to have been there five minutes sooner," Booth said. He refused to talk about the surveillance of the car.

The killer is blamed for 16 brutal slayings and multiple attacks in Los Angeles and Orange counties and San Francisco.

An owner of the Dragon Lady bar said that a man wearing a white dress shirt, tan pants and cowboy boots, with a

newspaper under his arm, was waiting outside when the bar opened at 3 p.m. Monday.

The woman, who requested anonymity, said she recognized the resemblance between the man with the curly brown hair and the composite drawing she saw on television. Her bouncer agreed.

"He said it looked like him and he called police," she said. In the meantime, she said, employees talked with the man as he downed two Coors, which he paid for with a \$20 bill, in an attempt to keep him at the bar until officers arrived.

She said she was an unemployed Vietnam veteran named Eddie. He showed one of the bartenders what he said was a bullet wound. But the conversation didn't last — and the man boarded the bus.

While the man was drinking beer, the

Toyota allegedly used by the Night Stalker was parked in a lot within a cluster of buildings at the market. John Quinn, owner of Foods for Fitness next to the market, said the car's license was among those he jotted down Monday to keep track of which cars are parked too long.

Those notes, now turned over to police, indicated that the car was parked in the lot sometime before Quinn went to work Monday morning. But he said he didn't find out it was the car supposedly used by the Night Stalker until Tuesday, when police arrived.

Detectives went to the upstairs of Beverly Book and Bible next door to watch in case the Night Stalker returned to the car.

"The police came in and wanted to use our store for an observation post," said the Rev. Rodney Shelton Brooks, who manages the store.

He said detectives wouldn't tell him why they were so interested in the car.

But as he sat reading the Herald, he noticed that the description of the killer's vehicle in the newspaper matched the car sitting a few dozen yards away.

It was then, he said, that officers admitted why they wanted to watch the lot.

Indicate page, date, newspaper, city and state.

A-3 HERALD EXAMINER
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Date: 8/30/85
Edition: Friday

Title: HOW POLICE FOUND STOLEN CAR

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Classification: 80-33B
Submitting Office: Los Angeles

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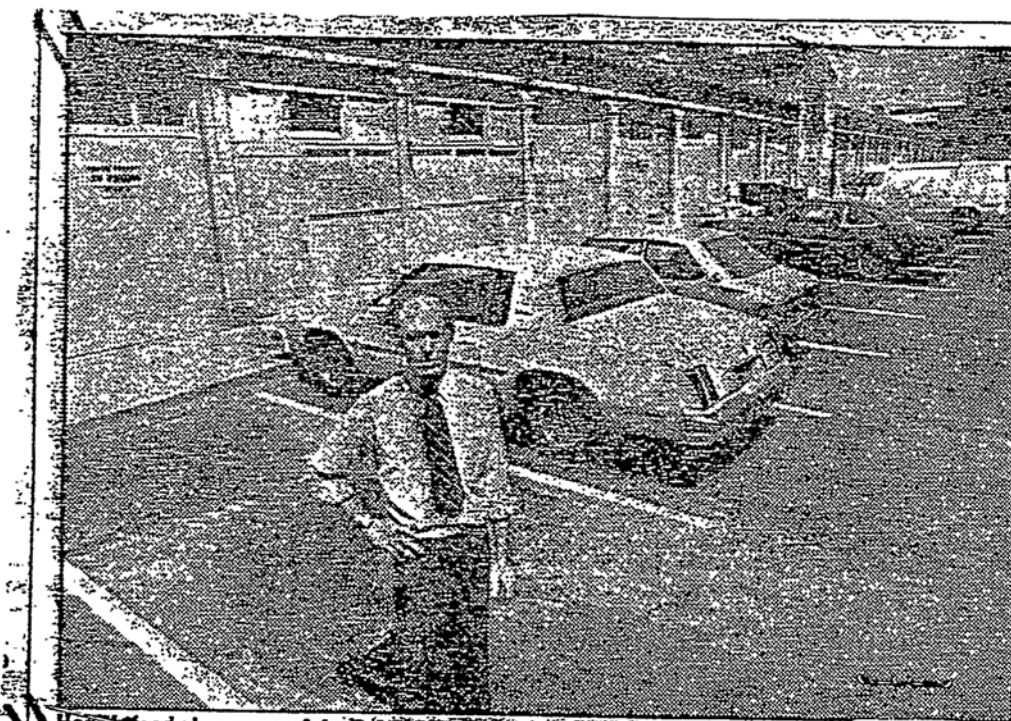
ORIGINAL TO THE BUREAU

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FBI DOJ



The Rev. Rodney Shelton Brooks, manager of Beverly Book and Bible, had officers in his store staking out vehicle.



Hean food store owner John Quinn, left, stands near spot where car was parked.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Laser turns up fingerprints other than owner's in Toyota

By Jeff Gottlieb
Herald staff writer

Using a laser beam like a flashlight, Orange County criminologists have found fingerprints other than the owner's in the Toyota suspected of being stolen by the Night Stalker serial killer.

Investigators say the prints could belong to any number of the owner's friends. Or they could belong to the man authorities believe stole the car before his attack on a Mission Viejo couple early Sunday. The car was found abandoned in Los Angeles on Tuesday.

Before investigators could use the sophisticated laser equipment, workmen had to build a temporary shelter next to the sheriff's office to house the Toyota.

"Even at night there is too much incidental light outside for the laser test to work," said Larry Ragle, director of forensic services for the sheriff's department. "It has to be very dark."

The 6-foot-long, 8-inch-wide laser cannot be moved because of the amount of power it uses and its cooling system, Ragle said.

"Usually we have things like guns or knives and we just take them into the building," he said. "This time we had to improvise."

A hole was drilled in the wall next to the shelter so that the laser's 20-foot-long

fiber optics cable, which emits the laser beam, could be threaded through into the shelter, Ragle said.

The sheriff's department bought the \$35,000 laser about a year ago, making it the only police agency in the state to have one, Ragle said. The Phoenix Police Department and the Arizona Public Safety Department have similar lasers.

"You can find a print on anything with the laser," Ragle said.

First, the areas of the car being checked were dusted with fingerprint powder, the traditional means of finding prints.

Then the laser is flashed over the area being inspected.

"If a print shows up there, we might put Superglue on it to make it bolder," Ragle said. "It becomes very dramatic."

Superglue, available in most drug stores, contains a chemical that turns fingerprints white.

Once photographs of the fingerprints are taken, they are specially coded and entered into the sheriff department's Automated Latent Print System. The computer system the department rents for \$4,000 a month. The system contains fingerprints from 15,000 people who have been booked into the Orange County Jail, Ragle said.

If no match is found, investigators will check the computers of other state law enforcement agencies.

Indicate page, name of
newspaper, city and state.

A-5 HERALD EXAMINER
LOS ANGELES, CA
Date 8/30/85
Edition Friday

Title LASER TURNS UP FINGERPRINTS
OTHER THAN OWNER'S IN
TOYOTA

Character:
or
Classification: 80-33B
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SEP 03 1985	
FBI - LOS ANGELES	

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Forensic specialist Becki Morgan of the Orange County Sheriff's Department uses laser scanner.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state)

A-1 EVENING OUTLOOK
SANTA MONICA, CA.

Date 8/29/85
Edition Thursday

Title KILLER REPORTED ASKING TO
BE CAUGHT

Character
or
Classification:
Submitting Office: Los Angeles

Killer reported asking to be caught

United Press International

Although the "Night Stalker" continues to dodge authorities, he has become careless during this five-month killing spree and is asking to be caught," psychologist Joyce Brothers said Wednesday.

"Historically, there is a part of serial killers that desires to be captured," Brothers said in a telephone interview with UPI.

"They feel this terrible tension that builds faster and faster, so the killings will come at a faster pace. Eventually, the tension becomes so unbearable that they begin to leave clues that police will fall all over.

"They subconsciously want help and are asking to be caught."

To illustrate her point, Brothers cited several examples of the Night Stalker's "carelessness" in recent attacks, specifically in Mission Viejo, where he was believed to have fled in an orange Toyota station wagon that was recovered Wednesday in downtown Los Angeles.

"You can't miss an orange car,"

Brothers said. "They're bright cars and they call attention. If I were a car thief, I wouldn't pick a car that would be a spotlight."

Brothers said other methods frequently employed by the Stalker, such as scrawling messages on the walls of victims' homes, are also signs he is begging to be stopped.

Although Brothers agrees with most psychologists that the Night Stalker defies the stereotype of most serial killers because he attacks at random and uses a variety of weapons, she cited a few consisten-

cies in his behavior, such as his penchant for yellow homes, and sneaking through unlocked doors and windows.

It is unusual that his victims are chosen at random, but they're always chosen at easy access near freeways, and he seems attracted by open windows," Brothers said.

"Symbolically, it seems to me he is looking for the family he never had. When you have door or window that is closed, it's a barrier, and he wants to be invited in."

2520-1-58

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SERIALIZED	FILED
SEP 03 1985	
FBI - LOS ANGELES	

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(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

\$25,000 added to reward pool offered for 'Stalker'

By ROBERT KNOWLES
Copley News Service

Just hours after Los Angeles Police Department investigators found a stolen car thought to have been used in a killing by the "Night Stalker," the City Council added \$25,000 to the fast-growing reward pool.

The unanimous council action Wednesday was followed by a \$10,000 authorization by Gov. George Deukmejian, who said he hopes the reward "will help bring to an end the trail of violence, misery and heartbreak that the Night Stalker has left in California."

San Fernando Valley area Councilman Howard Finn proposed the city reward to show the council's intent "to move vigorously against such individuals" as the Night Stalker, several of whose victims have been valley residents.

The reward pool now totals \$70,000 for the capture and/or conviction of the man thought to be responsible for 34 attacks and 14 murders.

The fund also includes \$10,000 from the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, \$10,000 in private donations to the county fund, \$5,000

from the Arcadia City Council, and \$10,000 from the city of San Francisco.

Meanwhile, LAPD investigators transferred the stolen car — a 1976 orange Toyota Corolla Deluxe station wagon — to the custody of Orange County sheriff's officials Wednesday morning for special laser-beam fingerprint analysis.

The car, stolen Saturday night from Los Angeles' Chinatown district, may have been used by the Night Stalker during his latest assault, an attack on a young Orange County couple who live in Mission Viejo. The man was shot in the head, and the woman was raped and terrorized.

"We sent the car to Orange County because they have the laser technique and because the latest incident occurred in their jurisdiction, while we have only a stolen car case right now," said LAPD spokesman Lt. Dan Cooke.

Neither the LAPD nor Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department has the laser beam equipment for fingerprint analysis, although sheriff's officials said they have asked the Board of Supervisors to approve purchasing the system.

According to sheriff's Lt. Dick Olsen, Orange County investigators will also use a "super glue" method that involves releasing fumes inside the car, which are then attracted to oils and amino acids found in human fingerprints.

The stolen car, located on a residential street in the LAPD's Rampart Division, could prove to be a significant discovery, said Los Angeles Undersheriff Theodore Von Minden, whose agency has assigned 34 investigators to the case.

At the department's informal monthly briefing for the press, Von Minden found himself unexpectedly besieged by several dozen newspaper, radio and television reporters seeking any kind of information about the Night Stalker, who allegedly has committed his crimes in three counties — Los Angeles, Orange and San Francisco.

Meanwhile, police have been interviewing employees of construction sites near three of the Stalker-linked murder scenes. According to published reports, police have been showing laborers a photograph which resembles a police mugshot with the number covered.

Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.

A-2 EVENING OUTLOOK
SANTA MONICA, CA
Date: 8/29/85
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Title: \$25,000 ADDED TO REWARD POOL
OFFERED FOR 'STALKER'

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A-1 HERALD EXAMINER
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Date: 8/30/85
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Title: 16 MURDER COUNTS FOR
STALKER

Character:
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16 murder counts for Stalker

Police link 2 more cases to mass killer

By Mark S. Warnick
and Ruben Castaneda
Herald staff writers

Amid confusion and lack of communication among investigating agencies, authorities yesterday linked two more murders to the Night Stalker.

The additional deaths would raise the total attributed to the elusive serial killer to 16. They were disclosed as Los Angeles police officials announced new information about the Night Stalker's weapons, prepared statewide distribution of detailed bulletins on the suspect and failed to keep spokesmen for some investigating agencies abreast of all new findings.

Apparently not immediately informed were spokesmen for the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, which heads the multiagency task force assigned to the case.

The manner in which information was released to the public took a substantial turn yesterday with the LAPD's direct involvement. But it was unclear why the LAPD was assuming a more public role. Also unclear was why agencies normally notified were not, and what, if anything, that change reflected in the multiagency investigation.

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ORIGINAL TO THE BUREAU

Among developments in the Night Stalker manhunt yesterday:

■ Los Angeles police released for the first time information on two guns possibly used by the killer, a disclosure criticized by some agencies working on the investigation.

■ Investigators reported that the string of murders being linked to the suspect may have begun last February, not March 17 as previously believed.

■ Fingerprints not matching those of the vehicle's owner were found inside a stolen car believed used in the latest attack.

■ Investigators, who earlier said the Night Stalker may have worked in the construction industry, canvassed building sites near some of the attacks, showing workers composite drawings of the suspect.

■ Release of the bulletin on the suspect prompted initial confusion for its author — the Los Angeles Police Department — as well as

among sheriff's department spokesmen. The bulletin, which contained some new information, also angered some investigators with other agencies, who learned of those disclosures from reporters.

Authorities refused to disclose details on the two newly reported killings, saying only that they occurred earlier this year in the county, outside LAPD jurisdiction.

Although the sheriff's department heads the Night Stalker task force and has been in charge of releasing information on the investigation, officials with the department and the LAPD refused to explain why new details about the case were being handled by city police.

Sheriff Sherman Block previously has provided details about each slaying linked to the suspect, but neither his department nor the LAPD would explain yesterday why officials would not reveal the dates, locations and victims of the two murders mentioned in the bulletin.

Sheriff's department spokesmen referred all questions concerning the two killings to the LAPD, which refused to elaborate on the bulletin.

"We accepted the task of disseminating the bulletin," said LAPD spokesman Cmdr. William Booth. "That's as much as I'm going to say."

The LAPD bulletin also contained two composite drawings of the Night Stalker and details on the

suspect's method of operation, whereby he enters darkened homes through unlocked doors or windows. Thousands of copies were set to be distributed to retail outlets and gas stations throughout the state today, Booth said.

The bulletin also contained information about murder weapons possibly used by the Night Stalker, who is believed responsible for as many as 34 attacks in Los Angeles County and one each in San Francisco and Orange County. A .25-caliber automatic or a .22-caliber revolver may have been used in some of the slayings, according to the bulletin.

Arcadia police Detective Ed Winter, a member of the multiagency Night Stalker task force, said yesterday he had not been told of the bulletin. He also said he was surprised the new information came from Los Angeles police, not the sheriff's department which is heading the investigation.

"As far as information being put out, it does kind of murk the water up," Winter said of the LAPD's distributing the bulletin. "We've got an agreement with the sheriff's that before anything goes out, we'll get together and compare notes."

Release of the police bulletin marked the second time disclosures about the case raised criticism from investigators. Last week, Los Angeles County Sheriff Block, among others, indirectly criticized San Francisco Mayor Dianne Feinstein

for announcing that ballistics tests linked a murder in her city with Night Stalker attacks here.

Lt. Jim Swinford of the Glendale Police Department said releasing descriptions of the weapons was inconsistent with Block's scolding of Feinstein.

"The more you publicize any kind of evidence with a deranged person like this, the more you run the risk of clicking a light in his head," Swinford said. "He may not be thinking about the fact he's using the same weapon."

"But if it comes up two or three or four times, a light bulb might click in his head, and the next thing you know the gun's somewhere off the end of the Santa Monica Pier."

The bulletin was released as Orange County forensics specialists continued searching for evidence inside the stolen car believed used in the Night Stalker's latest attack. Some fingerprints, not those of the vehicle's owner, were found, said Larry Ragle, lead forensic specialist for the Orange County coroner's office.

The 1976 orange Toyota station wagon was stolen in Chinatown last Saturday. Authorities said it was spotted Sunday at the scene of the Night Stalker's latest assault, an attack on a couple in Mission Viejo, according to authorities. It was found near downtown Los Angeles on Tuesday and staked out, then towed away by police Wednesday morning.

During the Mission Viejo attack.
William Carns, 29, was shot three times in the head while in bed. He remains in critical condition at Mission Community Hospital. His fiancée, who was awakened by the gunshots, was raped but managed to call police.

Although Carns is still alive, he was included as a murder victim in yesterday's LAPD bulletin, which raised the reported number of the suspect's fatal victims to 17.

"Hopefully, that will be wrong," Booth said. "For the purposes of this bulletin, we have included the Mission Viejo attack because of the victim's critical condition."

The bulletin was released by the LAPD about 12:30 p.m. but was recalled within about a half-hour. Booth explained why the bulletin was withdrawn, saying, "Right now, I think (release of the initial information about the weapon) was a mistake."

The bulletin was rereleased about 1:30 p.m., with police explaining that the only mistake in the one-page flier was including the attack on Carns as a murder.

While Booth said the bulletin was released in cooperation with the sheriff's department, sheriff's spokesmen contacted after its release said they were still reporting 14 murders linked to the Night Stalker.

Several hours later, however, sheriff's Deputy John Broussard said his department "has conferred with the LAPD and has agreed with the release of the information concerning similarities in cases they have noted."

But, Broussard added, "We have no comment on the release of information about the guns."

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LOS ANGELES HERALD EXAMINER

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High-tech sleuthing for Stalker



An Orange County sheriff's deputy stands guard beside the Toyota that police believe was used in latest Night Stalker attack.

Paul Chin/Herald photographer

Car stolen by killer scrutinized for clues

By Mark S. Warnick
and Chris Woodyard
Herald staff writers

Night Stalker investigators turned to techniques ranging from laser beams to Superglue yesterday as they began scrutinizing a stolen automobile that may have been used in the suspect's latest vicious attack.

The search for evidence inside the vehicle, a 1976 orange Toyota station wagon, came as the reward fund for the Night Stalker's arrest and conviction climbed to more than \$70,000. The fund was bolstered by a \$25,000 contribution from the Los Angeles City Council and a \$10,000 reward offered by Gov. George Deukmejian.

The stolen car recovered by Los Angeles police yesterday morning may provide additional information about the serial killer sought for as many as 34 attacks, including 14 murders, authorities said.

"Any time you recover an automobile believed to be part of an offense, it is a significant break," said Los Angeles County Under Sheriff T.H. Von Minden.

The Toyota recovered by police was spotted Sunday at the scene of the suspect's latest assault, an attack in Mission Viejo, according to investigators. Authorities in Orange County were using one of the most advanced high-technology investigative techniques with a dash of Yankee ingenuity to find fingerprints inside the vehicle believed used by the Night Stalker.

The methods include use of a special laser that highlights fingerprints in its beam and Superglue. **Stalker/C-9, Col. 1**

Investigators are examining stolen car for fingerprints, other traces of Stalker

Stalker/Continued from A1

rylate has become increasingly popular with crime laboratories as a tool for finding fingerprints, Fitzpatrick said. The adhesive also emits fumes that turn fingerprints white.

The \$38,000 laser is the only one of its kind on the West Coast and has been used by the crime laboratory of the Orange County Sheriff's Department for about a year, said Orange County, Chief Criminalist Frank Fitzpatrick.

It acts as a very strong light, a pure light, with a beam about 6 inches wide that is directed over a surface, Fitzpatrick said. "The light reacts with the riboflavin, a substance in the fingerprint, through the night looking for clues." As investigators continued following hundreds of tips from callers throughout Southern California stamped on people's wrists that is viewed under a fluorescent light at fairs, concerts and other public events. Fingerprints revealed by the laser are then photographed, Fitzpatrick said.

If the laser method is inconclusive, Tom Bradley, "to provide a strong statement of the city's intent to turn to Superglue, an extremely powerful adhesive that gives off fumes that react with the moisture in fingerprints, Fitzpatrick said.

Since the method was discovered several years ago, Superglue approved by Bradley. The offer — with the chemical name cyanoacrylate — would remain in effect for two

months.

In Sacramento, Deukmejian offered a \$10,000 reward. State law authorizes the governor to offer such a reward from the general fund of up to \$10,000.

"I hope that this reward will help bring to an end the trail of violence, misery and heartbreak that the Night Stalker has left in California," Deukmejian said.

Earlier, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors and the city of San Francisco each contributed \$10,000. The city of Arcadia has offered \$5,000 and private contributions total more than \$10,000.

The stolen Toyota was found in LAPD's Rampart division near downtown about 7 a.m. yesterday after authorities received a telephone tip from a resident. LAPD Cmdr. William Booth would not say when the call was received, or whether the vehicle was under police surveillance before it was impounded.

While investigators expressed hope that discovery of the stolen car could be a major boost to their case, they said the find is not an indication that the suspect has become careless.

"Autos used in crimes have an exceedingly high rate of recovery,"

said Von Minden, the Los Angeles County undersheriff.

The sheriff's department, which is heading a multiagency task force on the Night Stalker, says it is investigating a total of 34 cases, including 13 directly linked to the suspect. In those 13, 14 people were murdered and seven assaulted.

The sheriff's department is not releasing details of the other 21 cases except to say that they include cases of rape and assault.

The Night Stalker initially struck only in homes in the San Gabriel and San Fernando valleys, but has broadened his attacks to San Francisco and Orange County within the last two weeks.

Meanwhile, authorities in some Los Angeles County cities report a drop in burglaries in recent weeks, thanks to increased police patrols and heightened public awareness of the Night Stalker's attacks in homes.

"I think it's related to the killings," said Detective Ed Winter of the Arcadia Police Department, which reported a 65 percent decrease in the number of burglaries since last month.

"Some of the burglars are seeing these extra people patrolling," Winter said. "They're saying, 'Hey, it's not a good time to be creeping through someone's window and getting shot.'"

Staff writers Annette Haddad, Milton McGriff and Mark Lowe contributed to this story.

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LOS ANGELES HERALD -
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Sheriff takes his vacation in midst of manhunt

By Jeff Gottlieb
Herald staff writer

In the midst of one of the largest investigations in the history of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, Sheriff Sherman Block has gone on vacation.

But while his deputies search for the killer known as the Night Stalker, who has murdered 14 people, Block said that "it's irrelevant" whether he is at work.

"I'm not out on the street conducting the investigation," he said yesterday at his Canoga Park home. "I'm only as far away as the phone. On anything of a critical nature, I'm as close as the telephone, and that's how they get me when I'm at my office. Any decisions that require my input, they will call me."

The sheriff said he is confident his top aide, Undersheriff Theodore Von Minden, a 36-year veteran of the department, can handle any problems that crop up.

Block's vacation started Tuesday and will continue until sometime after Labor Day. The sheriff said he will work a few days during that period.

Block said he had spoken to his aides several times Tuesday and yesterday. Assistant Sheriff Robert Edmonds, the third-ranked man in the department, said the sheriff is briefed daily.

The deputies running the investigation are Capt. Robert Grimm, who heads the homicide bureau, Oliver Taylor, the chief of detectives, and his assistant sheriffs.

Block, 61, said he will remain at home during his vacation, which he planned several months ago, in order to visit with elderly out-of-town relatives he has not seen in several years.

Other than holidays, this vacation marks the first days off he has had this year, Block said. As an elected official, there is no policy regarding the amount of vacation time he can take.

He said he and his top three aides plan their vacations so only one of them will be gone at a time. Von Minden returned from vacation the day before Block began his.

The sheriff said that in his absence the investigation would continue "without any interruption or impact. Can you imagine any organization that relied on any single person to carry out its response?"

Block was unanimously appointed sheriff by the county Board of Supervisors in 1982 when Peter Pitchess resigned after 23 years on the job. Block served as Pitchess' undersheriff and top aide for seven years, while the sheriff groomed him for the job. He was elected to his first full term later that year.

Block complained that as sheriff he spends his time running the department, allocating his troops and deciding how the budget should be spent, rather than working in investigation and enforcement. He was appointed a captain in 1968.

"At that point you're a manager," he said.

"He's the administrator of the department," Edmonds said. "He's not an investigator." Asked what decisions he had made regarding the Night Stalker investigation, Block said they mainly involved communications with other agencies.

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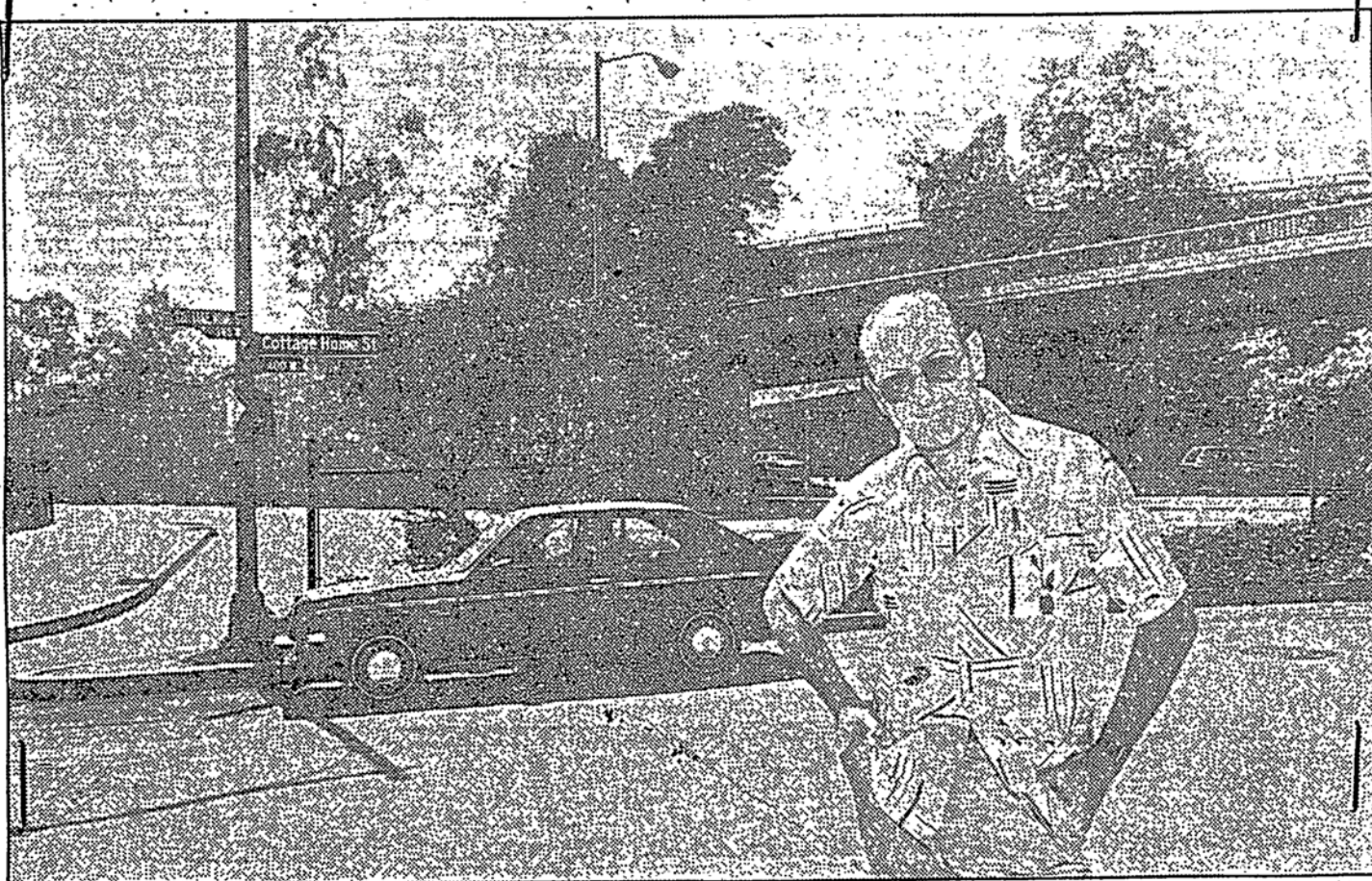
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SEARCH FOR THE NIGHT STALKER



Anne Knudsen/Herald photographer

Bill Gregory stands on street in Chinatown where his Toyota station wagon was stolen while he wrote a thank-you letter to couple who gave it to him.

Did stolen car match good against evil?

Owner says God led killer to pick vehicle with religious items

By Ruben Castaneda
Herald staff writer

Bill Gregory believes more than happenstance brought the Night Stalker to his car last Saturday night and made him a bit player in the unfolding drama of the search for the serial killer.

Gregory believes the Stalker's theft of his car, which was laden with church literature and a Bible, represented a meeting of the polarities of good and evil.

"I think he thought it was a randomly picked car. But I think it was God that led him to it," said Gregory, a member of the non-denominational Vineyard Christian Fellowship of West Hollywood.

Gregory noted that the Night Stalker left at the site of his first murder a cap with the letters "AC/DC" embroidered on it. The letters are the name of a popular heavy-metal band, but also are known to stand for "Anti-Christ — Devil's Child."

Gregory's 1976 orange Toyota Corolla station wagon was stolen Saturday evening in Chinatown. Ironically, it was stolen as Gregory ate dinner at a restaurant and composed a thank-you letter to the couple who gave the vehicle to him at the suggestion of Gregory's pastor.

The car, which was recovered in Los Angeles by police yesterday, was seen Saturday night near a Mission Viejo home, site of the latest assault by the brutal serial killer.

Gregory, 56, said he wasn't unsettled by the fact that his car probably was used by the killer.

"The guy's just demon-possessed," Gregory said. "We see people demons cast out from people all the time (at church gatherings)."

Church members believe in miracles and demons, Gregory said.

Included in the church literature in Gregory's car, which he had acquired just a week before the theft, were fliers from the church listing the phone number of the pastor, Jonathan Smith. The fliers also contain a map showing the location of Rosewood Elementary School, where the West Hollywood congregation meets.

Smith said yesterday that on Monday — the day after the latest attack linked to the Night Stalker — and Tuesday he received three phone calls in which the



Religious literature like this was inside car when the Night Stalker stole vehicle for latest attack.

caller did not speak.

"Silent calls," Smith said. "I tried to talk to them but there was no answer."

While Smith said he could not be sure who made the calls, he speculated that it might have been the Night Stalker, perhaps seeking someone to talk to.

Gregory and Smith have been drawn into the limelight surrounding the case.

Smith has fielded some calls the past couple of days from reporters, but for the most part has escaped their attention by going on a planned church retreat in Hidden Falls, a forest area north of Bakersfield.

Things have been busier for Gregory, who spent much of yesterday answering the phone at the West Hollywood home he is house-sitting, talking to detectives and reporters.

Gregory, who was planning on leaving for the retreat today, said he was growing hoarse from all the talking he's been doing.

Of the theft of his car by the Stalker, Gregory said, "I'm sure it will be an unsettling situation to some people in the church. But I'm glad (the literature) was in the car. If he needs help, we are available to minister to him."

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Psychological Profile: Probing Killer's Mind

We're not thinking like he's thinking.

—A veteran cop describing the search for a serial killer

By BOB BAKER.
Times Staff Writer

It was 1956. New York police, frustrated in their efforts to catch a man who was setting off bombs in movie theaters and other public places around the city, asked psychiatrist James A. Brussel to study the letters and other evidence that the so-called "Mad Bomber" had left behind.

Brussel's conclusion: The suspect was a quiet, meticulous, paranoid Eastern European between 40 and 50 who lived with a maiden aunt or sister in a Connecticut city, and when police caught him, he would be wearing a double-breasted suit, buttoned.

When police arrested George

Metesky of Waterbury, Conn., they found Brussel's profile was extraordinarily accurate—right down to the suit.

It is telling that the episode remains the finest moment in the much-romanticized art of psychological profiling, a process in which an unknown suspect's next move is predicted by the clues he leaves behind.

Today, the FBI maintains a vaunted computerized profiling operation in Quantico, Va. Portrayed as "mind hunters" by a wave of favorable publicity, the profilers handle 300 referrals a year from local law enforcement agencies who are looking for serial killers or rapists—including the case of the Night Stalker, who has been linked to 14 slayings and 21 rapes, assaults and kidnappings in California.

The FBI's psychological profile of the Night Stalker, based on

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views assembled by detectives from various police agencies, was returned to the 50-member task force in Los Angeles last week.

However, if past cases are any indication, the bureau's description contains little that will lead police directly to the Stalker. The best it will probably do is save detectives valuable time by winnowing out some of the 2,000 tips that have

poured in.

"It's not going to tell you that he's a blue-collar worker who goes to church three times a week," said Robbie Robertson, a former Michigan State Police captain experienced in serial murder cases.

"Killers don't leave that much information at the scene about their personalities," said James Alan Fox, a Northeastern Univer-

sity criminal justice professor who co-authored a book earlier this year on mass murderers.

"They're not really telling us anything new," said Bob Keppel, a member of the Washington state attorney general's office who spent four years as chief detective in the search for serial killer Ted Bundy and is now a consultant to a task force seeking the Green River Killer, who has murdered numerous prostitutes in Seattle. "What they're telling us are things they think are most prominent in a case."

The basic advantage the FBI's profilers have over local investigators in correlating clues and behavior is experience.

Since 1978, agents in the FBI Academy's behavioral science unit have been conducting prison interviews with murderers like Charles Manson, "Son of Sam" killer David

Berkowitz and Richard Speck, who murdered eight student nurses in Chicago in 1966. Nearly 50 murderers have answered a 57-page questionnaire, which examines details such as how the killer approached his victim, what he said to the victim and how he reacted after he killed.

Contents of the Night Stalker profile are closely guarded by investigators, and officials at the FBI Academy refused to discuss their profiling process even in general terms, citing the ongoing investigation. But advice given in past cases provides a glimpse of the conclusions the profilers have developed:

- Did the killer stab the victim's sex organs? The more vicious that kind of stabbing, the greater the odds that the killer knew the victim.

- Did the killer use whatever weapon was available, such as an iron fireplace tool? That indicates that the act was impulsive and should lead detectives to suspect that the killer came on foot. If the killer brought his own weapon, he probably drove there.

- Does the killing appear to have been done with sudden fury? This indicates a youthful killer, possibly nervous and determined to quickly subdue his victim. Similarly, the more methodical, sadistic killing leads investigators to suspect a person in his 20s or 30s.

- Did the killer carry away an artifact, like a bracelet or a compact? He may be doing this so that he can later re-create the experience by himself.

- In the case of a rape, did the attack take place with anyone else around? This can indicate that the suspect has a self-styled *macho* personality.

- In a slashing, was the victim killed with a single slash across the throat? That should lead detectives to suspect that the suspect has killed before.

"It draws you away from the suspects that are totally opposite in character," Green River investigator Keppel said. "It really helps in the prioritization of information."

leading ~~to the killer~~. According to a source familiar with the profiling process, a 1981 FBI study found that of 192 cases in which a profile was prepared, a suspect was arrested 88 times. Of those 88 cases, the profiles led to the identification of the suspect 15 times, or 17%. In about three-quarters of the 88 cases, the profile was thought to have helped focus the investigation.

Boston criminal justice professor Fox said that while he believes the FBI has set a new standard for profiling, law enforcement sometimes puts too much emphasis on the value of profiles.

"Serial killers tend to be very good at what they do. They're the cream of the crop. . . . They're very good at covering their tracks," Fox said. "When they do leave information at crime scenes, it's not very much. What the FBI does is educated speculation.

'For the Fun of It'

"We have this image that criminals are committing these crimes because they have psychological disorders, and that since they have a disorder, they will leave an impression at the crime scene. But the fact is that few serial killers are deranged in any medical or legal sense. They may lack conscience, they're sociopaths, but that's not a mental disease. Serial murderers often commit it for the fun of it."

A respected forensic psychologist, who asked that his name not be used because he frequently consults with law enforcement agencies, characterized profiling as "guesses by psychologists rather than guesses by cops. It remains to be seen who guesses best."

"It's not like studying hieroglyphics and becoming better at interpreting," said Martin Reiser, a clinical psychologist who leads the Los Angeles Police Department's behavioral science services unit. "The categories of information are pretty standard. The real problem is making sense out of it."

Seattle investigator Keppel said that while homicide investigators at sophisticated agencies like the LAPD may not need the help of an FBI profile, "if you're a detective in a small agency someplace with just two or three homicides a year, you just don't have the experience those folks do."

Times research librarian Nona Yates assisted in preparing this article.

Experts Off Base

Keppel said a profile produced in 1974 by local authorities and psychological experts in the search for Bundy—a convicted killer suspected of murdering as many as 40 girls and women, mostly in the Northwest—"helped us pick out or choose our 100 best suspects out of the 3,500 that we had. One of them was Bundy."

The art of profiling has had failures as well-publicized as Brussel's success. In the early 1960s, a committee of psychiatrists and psychologists was established to catch the Boston Strangler.

"The experts decided he was not one man but two. They said both lived alone and were probably schoolteachers and that one was a homosexual. The man who confessed to 13 stranglings, Albert DeSalvo, was a construction worker with a wife and children and was found to be an avid heterosexual. (DeSalvo was never tried for the slayings, although he was later convicted of other sex crimes.)

It is rare that a profile actually

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Car Recovered, Scoured for Stalker Clues

By DAVID FREED
and MARK LANDSBAUM,
Times Staff Writers

A stolen station wagon spotted near the scene of the most recent Night Stalker attack was found abandoned Wednesday morning on a Los Angeles street. Investigators using state-of-the-art techniques searched the car for fingerprints and other clues.

Los Angeles County Undersheriff Theodore H. Von Minden called the recovery of the orange 1976

**Psychological profile drawn up
on Night Stalker. Part II, Page 1.**

Toyota a "significant break" in the hunt for the curly-haired killer believed responsible for 14 slayings and 21 assaults since February.

But Von Minden and other authorities would not say whether any evidence was initially recovered from the car, which was spotted at 7 a.m. by an unidentified person who called police. Authorities also would not reveal where the car was recovered, except to say that it was found in the Los Angeles Police Department's Rampart Division, which includes Silver Lake, about half of Koreatown, the Wilshire business district and the Pico-Union area.

The car was later taken on a flatbed truck to an Orange County Sheriff's Department garage in Santa Ana, where investigators began their painstaking probe for clues.

"We will be looking for hairs, fibers and anything of microscopic nature. . .," said Frank Fitzpatrick, the sheriff's chief criminalist. "We'll try to identify everybody who's been in the car."

In other developments in the case Wednesday:

- The Los Angeles City Council and Gov. George Deukmejian each authorized rewards for tips leading to the arrest and conviction of the Stalker, bringing to \$70,000 the

Please see STALKER, Page 27

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 1
LOS ANGELES TIMES

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STALKER: Stolen Car

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amount of money being offered in the case.

Saying the killer presents "a serious danger to the community," the City Council unanimously authorized a \$25,000 reward for information leading to his apprehension.

"In the long run it saves the public an enormous amount of money," said Councilman Howard Finn, who suggested the reward. He characterized the sum as a "drop in the bucket" contrasted with the costs of an extended investigation.

Deukmejian offered a \$10,000 reward from the state's general fund, saying he hopes that it "will help bring an end to the trail of violence, misery and heartbreak that the Night Stalker has left in California."

Earlier, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors authorized a \$10,000 reward that was later supplemented by two anonymous citizen donations, one for \$10,000 and another for \$10. The city of San Francisco, where a man was killed and his wife wounded, offered a \$10,000 reward. And Arcadia, scene of two murders linked to the Stalker, offered its own \$5,000 reward.

• Officials in some suburban communities, including Temple City and South Pasadena, reported recent reductions in residential burglaries partly due, they believe, to heightened citizen awareness because of the Stalker.

In Arcadia, where the Stalker has struck at least twice, burglaries have dropped from 70 in July to 23 so far this month.

"It's possibly due to the Night Stalker," said Arcadia Police Detective Ed Winter. "Residents are securing their homes better and buying guns, and maybe a few of the burglars are afraid of getting into a home and being shot."

However, Sheriff's Sgt. John Samuel said no particular drop in crime had been noticed by the substation in nearby Altadena.

"I suppose with all the police on the street, the average burglar would be pretty dumb to do anything," he said. On the other hand, he estimated that 70% to 80% of residential burglaries are performed during the day, and most of the special deployment of officers looking for the Stalker has been at night.

• Authorities encouraged citizens to continue calling police and Sheriff's Department hot lines to report possible Stalker sightings and related information, even though callers are often met by seemingly endless busy signals.

Detectives have reported receiving more than 2,000 tips from citizens on the Sheriff's Department telephone line (213-974-4341) and the Police Department's line (213-485-7024).

"It's been a voluminous number of calls," said Officer Sergio Diaz, a police spokesman. "No matter how many lines we've got, I think you'd have the same problem. All we can ask is that people keep trying to help."

Authorities believe that the Stalker last struck early Sunday in the Orange County community of Mission Viejo, where 29-year-old William Carns was shot three times in the head by an intruder in his home. Carns' girlfriend, also 29, was raped.

A witness in the neighborhood where that attack took place reported seeing an orange Toyota station wagon, but was able to remember only a partial license plate number of 482 T. The orange Toyota recovered Wednesday bears the license plate 482 RTS. It had been stolen Saturday night in Los Angeles' Chinatown.

The car's owner, Bill Gregory, 56, said he was eating dinner in Chinatown when the car was taken. Gregory, a carpenter who lives in West Hollywood, said the back of the wagon contained several pieces of literature from his church, Vineyard Christian Fellowship, including the name and telephone number of his minister, Jonathan Smith.

Smith said Tuesday that since the car was stolen, he has received a series of at least four mysterious calls from someone "who just stops and listens and doesn't hang up."

"I get a lot of weird calls. . . ." Smith said. "I'm not saying it's him (the Stalker), but it could be."

Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department homicide detectives, who are coordinating a multi-agency task force searching for the Stalker, discounted the significance of the calls Smith has received. However, Sheriff's Lt. Gary Vance said investigators are "interested in whether the (church) literature is missing from the car."

"We have high hopes of finding good evidence in the car," said Orange County Sheriff's Lt. Richard Olson.

Orange County authorities Wednesday night began using two of the latest scientific methods to retrieve evidence from the car. Those procedures were expected to conclude this morning.

The first involves the use of Superglue fumes, which react to moisture in fingerprints, turning



KARI RENE HALL / Los Angeles Times

Investigators at Orange County Sheriff's Department garage inspect abandoned station wagon.

the prints white.

A laser is used in the second method, which has been employed with some success in enhancing latent fingerprints that may have been partially wiped clean by criminals. The Orange County Sheriff's Department is said to be the only law enforcement agency on the West Coast to have such a laser.

Detectives have declined to say whether the Stalker uses gloves in his attacks, in which he enters darkened homes through open windows or doors to shoot, stab or bludgeon his sleeping victims. However, it is known that in at least one recent assault, he masked the lower part of his face with a piece of clothing apparently to hide his most distinguishable feature: his gapped, badly stained teeth.

He may also have worn a cap in some attacks. The Police Department this week issued a new composite drawing showing the man believed to be the Stalker wearing a black baseball cap.

The killer may have left a similar cap behind in the Rosemead condominium where he is believed to have killed his first victim, Dayle Okazaki, 34, on March 17. The cap left behind bore the logo of the heavy metal rock group AC/DC.

Meanwhile, The Times has learned that authorities have been questioning laborers at construction sites near three of the Stalker-linked murder scenes in Arcadia, Whittier and Glendale.

Construction workers said de-

tectives apparently are interviewing employees on lists provided by contractors and subcontractors to see whether any of them resemble the Stalker or whether workers might have seen anyone lurking in the area who might resemble the killer.

One construction site is located a block from the Whittier home of Vincent and Maxine Zazzara, who were shot to death in March.

Workers at that site said they were shown two composite drawings and a photograph. The first drawing was a composite showing a man with curly hair, and bad teeth—the same sketch obtained from police and widely publicized. The second drawing showed a man with blond or brown hair, and the third, a photograph of a man with long hair parted in the middle. The photograph, the workers said, looked like a police mug shot with the booking number covered. All three bore a resemblance to one another, the workers said.

A Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department spokesman, Deputy John Broussard, said he knew of no other composites or police booking photos being circulated. He also added that detectives "may be exploring construction sites" but that if they are, it is an "investigation tool" on which he could not comment.

Glendale police, who workers said also visited the three sites, would not comment. The Arcadia

home of Patty Elaine Higgins, who was killed June 27, sits between two large construction sites. Developers at those sites said they had been questioned and their employee files examined. Supervisors at the two work sites both said they have not seen anyone suspicious among the many workers who have worked there in recent months.

"If that's the tie, then it's going to be a heck of a job," one supervisor said. "You know how many different subcontractors and workers one of these jobs goes through—from preparing the site to building the apartments to putting on the roofing?"

In Glendale, workers at the construction site next door to where Max and Lela Kneiding were murdered July 20, also are being questioned by detectives. "We had one guy who faintly resembled (the Stalker)," a site superintendent said. "But he checked out OK with the police."

He added: "I hope they catch that guy. Some people are really scared. I won't sleep with my windows closed, so my wife sleeps in a different bedroom with the door locked and a gun at her side. One morning, when I went in to shave, I found a gun in my face. Hers."

Times staff writers Cathleen Decker, Carol McGraw, Michael Seiler and Nancy Wride contributed to this story.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 1 (PART II)
LOS ANGELES TIMES

Date: 8-28-85

Edition:

Title:

Character: 252B-1
or

Classification:

Submitting Office: LA

Indexing:

New Night Stalker Sketch

Adds Black Cap

By DAVID FREED and MARK LANDSBAUM, *Times Staff Writers*

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Los Angeles Police Department spokesman Cmdr. William Booth declined to say why the cap was included in the updated drawing, except to note that "at times, he's been seen wearing a baseball cap. It's not something he just started wearing."

Sheriff's Lt. Dick Walls said the killer may have left a similar cap behind in the Rosemead condominium where he is believed to have killed his first victim, Dayle Okazaki, 34, on March 17.

Authorities said a navy blue cap found at the murder scene had a silver patch embroidered in red. The patch depicted a lightning bolt and the letters "AC-DC," the name of a popular heavy metal rock band.

Other features of the first drawing—the curly brown hair and gapped, badly stained teeth—were not changed in the composite issued Tuesday, nor was the physical description provided by witnesses and survivors. He is described as being of slim build, about 6 feet tall and 25 to 30 years old.

Police asked that the public clip and save published versions of the composite drawings. Booth suggested that people carry the clippings in cars so they could more readily recognize

individuals resembling the killer.

"If they see somebody who looks like him, we'll come in a hurry," Booth said.

Meanwhile, authorities continued their search for a car seen by a witness in the Mission Viejo neighborhood where the Stalker is suspected of shooting a 29-year-old man and raping his girlfriend early Sunday. The car is believed to have been stolen Saturday night in Los Angeles' Chinatown, while its owner dined in a restaurant.

Authorities described the stolen car as an orange 1976 Toyota with the license plate 482 RTS. The witness reported seeing a car of the same make and color, but was able to remember

Please see **STALKER**, Page 2



A police sketch of the killer.

STALKER: Cap Added to Sketch

Continued from Page 1

only a partial license plate number of 482 T.

Police have asked the public's help in locating the auto.

So far, the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, which is coordinating a multi-agency hunt for the serial slayer, has received more than 2,000 tips in the case, including dozens of reported sightings of people resembling the suspect.

The most recent sighting came Tuesday afternoon in the San Gabriel Valley community of San Dimas, where sheriff's deputies searched a neighborhood after receiving reports of a man resembling the Stalker in a "mom and pop" grocery store.

The deputies, aided by a helicopter and tracking dogs, scoured the area around Gladstone Street and Amelia Avenue for nearly an hour before calling off the search, said Deputy Richard Shaw.

"Two citizens saw a man who they thought resembled the 'Valley Intruder,' but we didn't find him," Shaw said.

Sheriff Sherman Block suggested early in the investigation that "Valley Intruder" would be an appropriate nickname because of the killer's intrusive behavior in sneaking into darkened homes, and because the crimes occurred in the San Fernando and San Gabriel valleys.

However, the most recent slayings have occurred as far away as Mission Viejo in Orange County and in San Francisco.

More and more, the public, the news media and law enforcement officials—particularly those in the Police Department—have come to call the killer the "Night Stalker."

"You can't call him the Valley Intruder because he's not always hitting in the valley," said Lt. Dan Cooke, a Police Department spokesman.

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(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

II-1 LOS ANGELES TIMES
LOS ANGELES, CADate: 8/28/85
Edition: Wednesday

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By DAVID FREED and MARK LANDSBAUM, *Times Staff Writers*

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File: NEW NIGHT STALKER SKETCH
ADDS BLACK CAPCharacter:
or
Classification:
Submitting Office: Los Angeles

Indexing:

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b7c

252B-1A-5C

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SERIALIZED	FILED
AUG 28 1985	
FBI — LOS ANGELES	

Continued from Page 1

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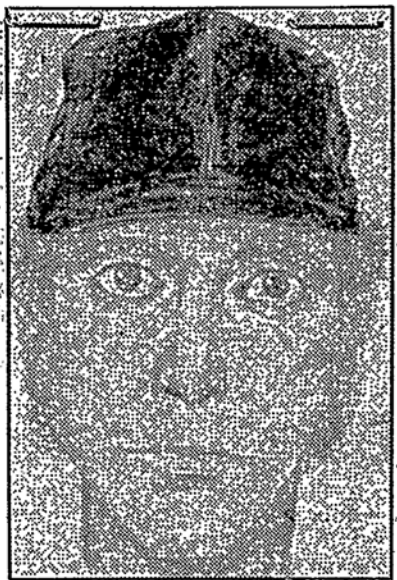
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A police sketch of the killer.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

New clues about Night Stalker

Police release updated sketch

By Ruben Castaneda
and Timothy Carlson
Herald staff writers

Like a blurry photograph coming slowly into focus, a shadowy portrait of the Night Stalker is emerging from the jumble of details painstakingly accumulated by detectives on his trail.

According to police agencies, the serial killer dresses in dark clothing, sometimes including a plain dark baseball cap. He may also wear a black, shiny waist-length jacket, black pants and a white shirt.

He may have been a construction worker, and may have once worn a very thin mustache.

Already, the killer's haunted, bug-eyed gaze in a police composite drawing may be the best-known face in Southern California. He is depicted as a thin, sallow-looking man, with gapped, badly decayed teeth and curly brown hair.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

A-1 HERALD EXAMINER
LOS ANGELES, CA

Date: 8/28/85
Edition: Wednesday

Title: NEW CLUES ABOUT NIGHT
STALKER

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Submitting Office: Los Angeles

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b7C

252B-1A-49

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SERIALIZED	FILED
AUG 28 1985	
FBI - LOS ANGELES	

[Signature]

But yesterday, the Los Angeles Police Department released an updated composite drawing showing the suspect wearing a plain, dark baseball cap. It also shows somewhat less curly hair, extending below the ears, and possibly parted on either side, rather than in the middle.

Chillingly, he may also have worn a baseball cap decorated with the symbol of a heavy-metal rock group, AC/DC, which has been associated with satanic cults.

The details came from a variety of police sources, including the reissue of a bulletin first issued after the killing of Dayle Okazaki, the woman believed to be the Night Stalker's first victim. Okazaki's roommate, who survived the attack, provided details about the suspect's clothing and appearance, including the thin mustache.

The information about the AC/DC cap came from that bulletin, originally issued March 29. Sheriff's

Deputy Sam Jones said such a cap was found in Okazaki's Rosemead condominium after the March 17 attack.

Jones said the cap had a silver patch on it, embroidered in red, which depicted a lightning bolt and the letters "AC/DC." He noted the letters were the name of the popular musical band, but also had a secondary meaning for occult groups who engage in devil worship.

The letters also stand for "Anti-Christ — Devil's Child," said Jones. But he added, "As far as we know, there is no connection between the patch on this cap and any signature this killer may leave behind at the scene of his crimes," said Jones.

Police have been tight-lipped about whatever it is that the suspect has scrawled on walls in at least three cases.

Both the Orange County and Los Angeles County sheriff's departments have issued a bulletin describing a 1976 orange Toyota station wagon with the license plate number 482 RTS.

The car, which was stolen in Los Angeles' Chinatown last Saturday, was spotted Sunday at the scene of the latest assault, an attack on a young couple in Mission Viejo, said Joe Garza, a Los Angeles County sheriff's deputy.

Investigators were still looking for the car yesterday.

The vehicle is one of several believed to have been stolen by the serial killer, said LAPD Cmdr. William Booth.

The 1976 Toyota Corolla Deluxe station wagon was stolen from Los Angeles resident Bill Gregory, who said he parked the car on the 400 block of Cottage Home Street, just off the Pasadena Freeway, about 9:30 p.m. Saturday.

He said he locked the vehicle and came back a half-hour later. Upon his return, the car was gone. Gregory said a spare set of keys were in a briefcase he left in the car.

In another development, LAPD detectives were looking for a link between the Night Stalker and several attacks on children, including the March 20 rape of an 8-year-old Glassell Park girl abducted from

her bed while her parents slept.

However, Dave Tellez, a Los Angeles sheriff's deputy, said sheriff's investigators are not including any child molestations as part of the Night Stalker investigation.

The Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, which is heading a 50-man interagency task force on the slayer, says it is investigating a total of 34 cases, including 13 directly linked to the suspect. Of those 13, 12 are murder cases in which 14 people were killed and five were assaulted. The other incident directly linked to the Night Stalker was in Mission Viejo, where a man was shot and wounded and his fiancée raped.

The sheriff's department is not releasing details of the other 21 cases, except to say that they include cases of rape and assault.

In Orange County, authorities yesterday said they were stepping up car and helicopter patrols in the wake of the latest assault.

Orange County Sheriff Brad Gates announced at a news conference that deputies are increasing their patrols in unincorporated areas of Orange County and have begun stopping people "in situations in which my officers feel are appropriate."

The latest attack attributed to

the Night Stalker, who has been linked to 14 murders, occurred in Orange County early Sunday morning.

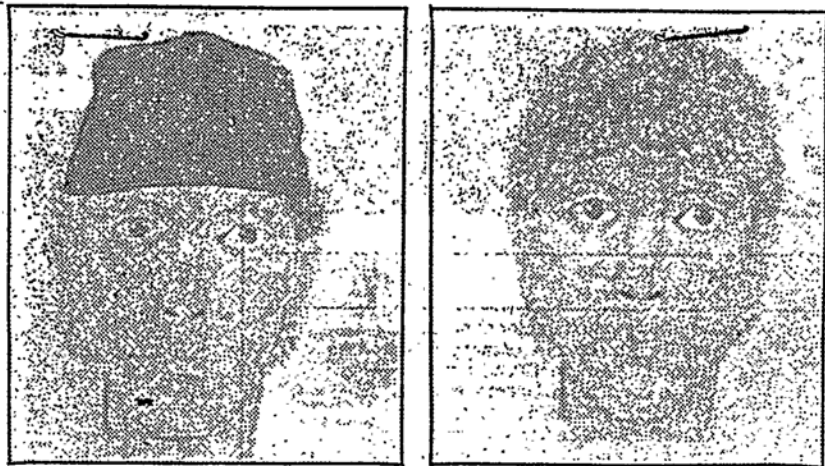
William Carns, 29, was in critical condition at Mission Community Hospital after having been shot three times in the head. His fiancée was raped, but managed to call police.

Gates urged Orange County residents to lock their doors and windows, to leave lights on at night both inside and outside their homes, and to call law enforcement authorities if they see any suspicious activities in their neighborhoods.

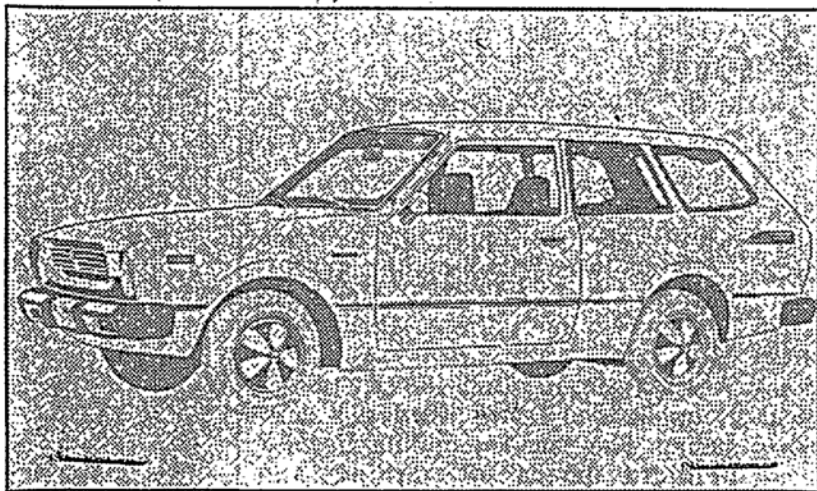
The Night Stalker has typically gained entry to the home of his victims through unlocked doors and windows.

Two of the assaults attributed to the serial killer have occurred in the LAPD's jurisdiction, in Northridge and Sun Valley. The LAPD has several detectives working on those cases, while cooperating with a larger, multi-agency task force, said LAPD Lt. Dan Cooke.

Herald staff writers Chris Woodyard, Milt McGriff and Mark S. Warnick contributed to this report.



Latest composite of Stalker, left, adds baseball cap and additional details to original version. Below is sketch of Toyota Corolla model station wagon killer may be driving.



(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Night Stalker's dental records add new clue

By Jeff Gottlieb
Herald staff writer

Dental records show that the man investigators think is the Night Stalker may have dental problems similar to those of a drug addict, one of the nation's top forensic dentists said yesterday.

Dr. Lowell Levine of New York based his opinion on a Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department "special bulletin," distributed to 5,000 dentists, which describes a man who is missing 12 of his 32 teeth, including many of his molars.

A copy of the bulletin was obtained by the Herald.

"If you want to speculate, we tend to see that type of thing in addicts and former addicts," Levine said. "So many missing teeth and cavities."

A sheriff's department spokesman refused comment.

Levine, a specialist in dental identification, was part of the team that flew to Brazil earlier this year to identify the remains of Nazi doctor Josef Mengele. He was reached by telephone in Philadelphia, where he was helping the coroner's office investigate the deaths of several members of the radical group MOVE.

Levine said drug addicts often have many missing teeth and cavities because narcotics mask the pain of bad teeth and most addicts eat food high in sugar.

Sheriff's investigators obtained the dental records from a Southern California dentist who recently treated a man matching the description of the Night Stalker, whom authorities have linked to 14 murders.

According to the records, the

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

A-1 HERALD EXAMINER
LOS ANGELES, CA

Date: 8/25/85
Edition: Sunday

Title: NIGHT STALKER'S DENTAL
RECORDS ADD NEW CLUE

Character:
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Classification:
Submitting Office: Los Angeles

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AUG 27 1985	
FBI - LOS ANGELES	

man deputies are seeking has had dental work performed to build up his two top front teeth, but the repair work is discolored and broken at the corners.

Several of his lower front teeth have been restored with a plastic-like material and have many cavities.

On his upper jaw, the killer is missing all but one of his back right teeth. On the bottom jaw, he is missing the five back bottom teeth. One of his front incisors is probably a false tooth.

Two teeth have had root canal surgery.

Dr. Harry Helfman, a Los Angeles dentist who treats many low-income patients, said similar dental problems are found in poor people who seldom visit a dentist.

Helfman said the suspect's decayed and ill-repaired teeth would be readily apparent.

"When he talks or smiles, he's probably not going to show his teeth," said Helfman. The dentist said the absence of many of the suspect's molars would make it difficult for him to chew.

The sheriff's bulletin warned dentists that the suspect may ask that his top front teeth — those that are discolored by the bad repair — be fixed. But both dentists said the records give no indication the killer is in pain from his dental problems.

Sheriff's spokesmen said the man used a false name for the dental visit, which they refused to disclose. They have also refused to confirm details about the dental records.

Sheriff Sherman Block on Friday night described the dental records as some of the investigators' most sensitive evidence.

Descriptions of the man's gapped, discolored teeth have figured prominently in accounts by surviving victims. They are consistent with the records that the dentist provided sheriff's deputies.

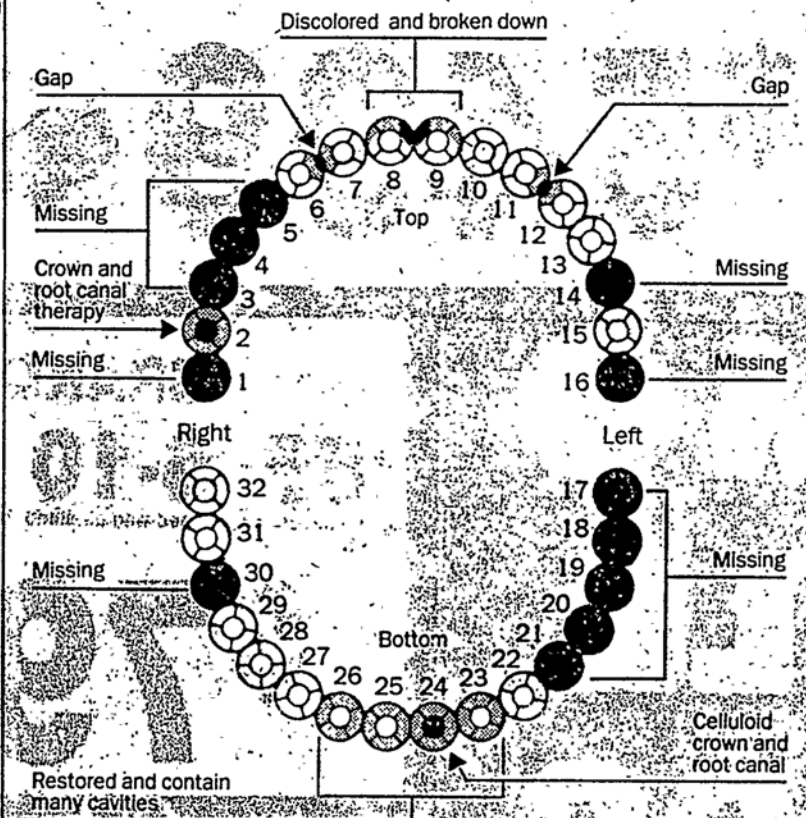
The Night Stalker is also described as a Caucasian or light-skinned Hispanic, age 25 to 30, about 6 feet tall, of thin build and having brown, curly or wavy hair.

The killer began his spree March 17, when he murdered two women in Monterey Park and Rosemead. Thirteen of his victims were killed in Los Angeles County and the 14th, slain last weekend, lived in San Francisco.

Besides his bad teeth, other key pieces of evidence include ballistics tests that link the gun used in the San Francisco killing to two murders in Los Angeles County, messages scrawled on the wall of the San Francisco couple's home and in the home of at least one Los Angeles-area victim, and unspecified evidence found in the homes of victims beaten or stabbed to death.

The killer enters darkened homes through unlocked doors or windows and immediately looks for the residents.

WHAT DENTAL RECORDS SHOW



Dental records show that the man believed to be the Night Stalker is missing 12 of his 32 teeth, including several molars. His front teeth are discolored and broken and contain many cavities. The diagram above, which represents facts contained in the dental records, shows both the upper and lower teeth.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 1
LOS ANGELES TIMES
LOS ANGELES, CA
Date: 8-27-85
Edition: VALLEY

Title:

Character: 252 B-1
or
Classification:
Submitting Office: LA

Indexing:

'Doesn't Meet Any Profile'

Valley Intruder Defies Serial Killers' Pattern

By BOB BAKER, Times Staff Writer

In his apparently random attacks, the Valley Intruder has departed from the way serial killers usually operate, according to experts who have studied the behavior of such murderers.

The fact that the intruder's victims cannot be stereotyped—as well as the fact that the killer has used a variety of weapons and committed a variety of other crimes—make the complex murder investigation even more bedeviling.

"It doesn't meet any profile we've ever seen on a serial murderer," said one officer involved in the investigation of the 14 murders and 21 rapes, assaults and kidnappings in Los Angeles and Orange counties and San Francisco that have been linked to the killer.

"This guy's a rapist and a murderer who at one point was abducting small children and setting them free," the investigator said.

Serial killers—like Hillside Stranglers Kenneth Bianchi and Angelo Buono, "Son of Sam" killer David Berkowitz and Chicago murderer John Wayne Gacy—tend to methodically choose victims with symbolic features.

Avenging 'Crimes'

They do this, psychiatrists say, out of a desire to avenge the "crimes" they believe were committed against them during unhappy childhoods—in effect reversing roles to purge themselves.

For that reason, a number of researchers said in interviews, the diversity of this killer's victims is perplexing. They have included men and women of varied ethnic origins and have ranged from children and teen-agers to young, middle-aged and elderly adults.

Although investigators are not yet sure whether the killer first determines who lives in the houses he enters, researchers are con-

vinced that a serial killer always looks for one special quality in his victims—no matter how random his crimes may appear.

Identifying that tendency is a lot like going to a museum. If you know art, you can spot anything done by Picasso. It's a creation of that individual," said Dr. Harvey Schlossberg, a forensic psychologist and former New York Police.

Please see KILLER, Page 19

252 B-1-

KILLER: Pattern Departs From Psychological Profile

Continued from Page 1

Department director of psychological services. His cases included that of Berkowitz, who murdered six women and wounded seven other people in New York in 1976 and 1977.

For example, said Richard Rappaport, a Northwestern University psychiatrist, Theodore Bundy, who has been implicated in the murders of 40 young women in the United States, preferred "college-age girls with black hair parted down the middle;" convicted Atlanta murderer Wayne Williams was accused of targeting black children, and Gacy, convicted of 33 mutilation murders, preferred boys and young men.

However, "to know what makes it unrandom in hindsight is very easy," cautioned Dr. Martin Orne, a University of Pennsylvania psychiatrist who helped police debunk Bianchi's "multiple personality" defense before the Hillside Strangler trial. "While it's going on, it's often very difficult to tie together," Orne said.

"One of the big problems is that it can be hidden," said Robbie Robertson, a former Michigan state police captain who investigated the still-unsolved killings of four children in the Detroit area several years ago. The killer in California may be drawn by something "as insignificant as the bedroom window that was left open," he said.

Mass Murderers

This case is one of three-dozen active serial killer investigations in the United States, Justice Department officials said.

Justice Department officials believe that the phenomenon is reflected by the fact that although the number of murders in the country dropped by 3.2% last year, the share of murders for which no motive could be determined increased. The percentage of murders with unknown motives rose to 22.1% in 1984 from 20.9% in 1983, Justice Department official Robert Heck said.

Intruder's Victim Remains Critical

William Carns, 29, the latest victim linked to the so-called Valley Intruder or Night Stalker, remained in critical condition Monday at Mission Community Hospital.

Carns was shot in the head early Sunday morning as he slept, and his girlfriend was raped in their Mission Viejo home. Both the Orange County and Los Angeles County sheriff's departments have linked the attacks to the serial killer.

As serial killings have received increased attention during the last several years, more social scientists have begun to study how the killers differ from mass murderers, who typically kill a number of people in one attack.

The answers they have found are chilling.

Unlike mass killers, who vent their anger psychotically, serial killers suffer from a dangerous form of personality disorder; they do not go through the sort of dramatic emotional breakdown that characterizes a mass murderer.

The serial killer has perfected what Dr. John Liebert, a Bellevue, Wash., psychiatrist, calls "the mask of sanity," the ability to fit into a community, escaping detection while planning his next move.

Rappaport, who has put together a psychological description of serial murderers based in part on the 65 hours he spent talking to Gacy, said the killer's violence is often the result of abuse or rejection during childhood. Fearful of expressing his anger, the child hides his unresolved negative emotions—for a while.

Satisfying Sexual Drives

"These are personalities with a particular mix," said Liebert. "You have antisocial feelings—the inability to perceive another human being—plus feelings of grandiosity and sexual sadism. In a different mix, those components can lead to very narcissistic individuals who

can be very creative, although they do not get along well in certain areas of life."

The wrong mix produces, typically, a white male in his 20s or 30s, who on the surface can be intelligent and charming but who is capable of satisfying his sexual drives only by murdering, researchers say.

Mired in narcissism—a stage of psychological development in which pleasure is taken exclusively in the self—he sees his victims not as people but as "props for his pleasure," according to Park Elliott Dietz, an associate professor of law and psychiatry at the University of Virginia.

Although the killer's main impulse is to wipe out the image of the parent or other person who wounded him in childhood, most psychiatrists believe that he is at the same time murdering for sexual satisfaction.

"A serial killing is like a sex crime. There's a build-up of tension, and killing is like a release for him," Schlossberg said.

"There are people whose sexual needs are to kill—though it may not necessarily focus on women," said Orne.

Knives, strangulation and other forms of torture are frequently used because of the killer's desire to achieve intimacy with his victims—to hear their screams or watch their eyes, Rappaport said.

The Valley Intruder, however, has shot his victims to death as often as he has stabbed or bludgeoned them. There has been a

crude pattern to his work: The first three crimes police have linked to the killer were abductions and sexual assaults of children in February and March in which the victims were set free. A high number of his subsequent crimes involved beatings and throat-slashings. The more recent crimes have involved shooting a man and raping his wife.

"The theory is that the crimes committed by this guy escalated at some point," said Montebello Detective Randy Thomas.

Some researchers say the serial killer's deep-seated vulnerability and need to prove that he is not weak may make him interested in publicity about his case and may lead him to provoke police. Others believe that he receives progressively lesser amounts of satisfaction from each killing, possibly encouraging him to strike more frequently.

Detectives in this case have refused to describe the threads they believe tie the murders and assaults together. Interviews with sources familiar with the case indicate, however, that investigators have found at least one of three clues in each of the related incidents: similarity in firearms, messages scrawled on walls and a "distinctive" piece of evidence the killer leaves behind in the homes of his victims.

'An Advantage'

If that is true, Liebert said in an interview, police should consider themselves "very lucky." . . . If they've got something left behind, some presentation or staging (by the suspect), they've got an advantage."

Yet even that advantage may not offer much immediate help, Michigan's Robertson said.

"The evidence they've found is probably being gathered more to convict the person than to find him," Robertson said.

Times staff writer Mark Arax contributed to this story.

Victims of Stalker See Ramirez in Jail Lineup

By DAVID FREED,
Times Staff Writer

Seeking to strengthen their case against Night Stalker suspect Richard Ramirez, authorities Thursday night placed the 25-year-old drifter in a lineup before about 30 surviving relatives, witnesses and victims of attacks allegedly committed by Ramirez.

Sheriff's officials declined to say whether any of those who attended the lineup at Los Angeles County Central Jail were able to recognize Ramirez.

After the lineup, the victims and witnesses examined about 2,000 pieces of jewelry and other articles, including video-cassette recorders and cameras, that investigators believe Ramirez stole in a series of burglaries in California. Ramirez is suspected of having committed at least 15 slayings and 21 assaults, kidnappings and rapes during the break-ins.

Ramirez was arrested Saturday in East Los Angeles after an all-points bulletin was issued for his arrest the night before. He is being held without bail in a maximum security section of the jail.

Affect on Case

The recollections of those who allegedly encountered Ramirez and their ability to prove ownership of the stolen items may ultimately determine which slayings and other criminal acts prosecutors will pursue against the El Paso, Tex., native, sheriff's officials said.

Witnesses, victims and survivors who visited the jail Thursday night viewed Ramirez in a 25-foot-by-80-foot room equipped with a stage, intense lighting and a one-way-glass partition running the length of the stage. Viewers were seated on one side of the glass, while Ramirez and a half-dozen other unidentified men resembling him were marched onto the stage.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

I-3 LOS ANGELES TIMES
LOS ANGELES, CA

Date: 9/6/85
Edition: Friday

Title: VICTIMS OF STALKER SEE
RAMIREZ IN JAIL LINEUP

Character:
or
Classification:
Submitting Office: Los Angeles

Indexing:

252B-1

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FBI - LOS ANGELES	

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Those in the lineup were unable to see those who viewed them or to hear their comments.

Sheriff's Lt. Dick Walls said that generally in such procedures, those on stage are asked through an intercom system to turn several directions so that viewers have sufficient opportunity to observe them. Viewers are then asked to identify the suspect.

At the request of the Sheriff's Department, the news media agreed to remain away from the jail while the victims and survivors filtered in and out.

"What concerns us is the condition of some of our witnesses," said Deputy Willie Miller told reporters. "Some are under medical care, some are with nurses. We are afraid, as traumatized as they are, having to face news media prior to or after that might damage our case."

Walls said Thursday night that most of the jewelry and other stolen items linked to Ramirez had

been taken this year. He would not specify where the items had been found, except to say that locations included Los Angeles County, San Francisco and El Paso.

Some of the goods were recovered with a search warrant, Walls said, but he would not say where that warrant was executed.

"It's evidence that has been gathered in this investigation by various methods, including from individuals who accepted the articles or bought the articles from a suspect that we believe to be Ramirez," he said.

He noted that "many" people who had purchased articles from Ramirez or had received gifts from him turned them over to authorities voluntarily when they learned that the items might have come

from the prime suspect in the Night Stalker investigation.

Such was the case two weeks ago, when police in Lompoc, 130 miles northwest of Los Angeles, were contacted by a woman who told them that she had recently acquired a bracelet and ring from a "old family acquaintance" in San Francisco whom she knew only as "Rick." She told authorities that "Rick" closely resembled a widely circulated composite sketch of the man believed to be the Stalker. Using the jewelry and other evidence, detectives were later able to link Ramirez to the Aug. 15 burglary and, ultimately, to the Aug. 17 slaying in San Francisco of 66-year-old accountant Peter Pan. The articles on display at the

Central Jail filled three 25-foot-long tables that were guarded by two deputies. The items, besides the rings, broaches, necklaces and earrings, included cameras, televisions, a video cassette recorder, video tapes, three suitcases and even a ceramic vase.

Dozens of pieces of jewelry were believed stolen July 20 in Sun Valley, where 32-year-old Chaina-rong Khovanath was shot to death and his wife assaulted by a late-night intruder. Police said at the time that at least \$30,000 in jewels and cash had been taken.

In a related development, authorities report that the search for evidence in the case has widened to Utah, where jewelry that may be linked to Pan's murder in San Francisco was located.

Ogden, Utah, Police Chief Joe H. Ritchie said Thursday that a 10-karat gold ring had been linked to

the Stalker suspect. He said an Ogden resident surrendered the ring last Sunday after receiving a call from a friend in the San Francisco area who had given it to him.

Ritchie said the ring is believed to have been a gift from Ramirez that was later passed on to the Utah man.

In Los Angeles, County Supervisor Pete Schabarum called for a \$5,000 "no-questions-asked" reward to anyone who turns in a gun that Ramirez is believed to have dropped while running from angry citizens Saturday in Boyle Heights.

Los Angeles authorities searched without success for the weapon Wednesday, leading to speculation that it may have been found and kept by someone who did not realize its significance.

A sheriff's spokesman said officers were "praying someone will hear about it and step forward."

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 1

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Recalling Ramirez: Even Friends Didn't Trust Him

By DAVID HOLLEY, Times Staff Writer

EL PASO—By the time they began high school together in 1974, Alma Gaytan Orozco no longer talked much with the boy who lived next door in their *barrio* in the center of this city.

"When I would come home from school or work, I wouldn't greet him," said Orozco, 25. "People started saying he was getting into people's houses. Our house was broken into, but we didn't have any proof it was him. Just the thought that it was him was scary, and I didn't want to have anything to do with him."

Orozco's neighbor was Richard Ramirez, who was arrested last weekend in Los Angeles as the suspected Night Stalker.

Interviews with friends and acquaintances of Ramirez—alleged to have committed perhaps 15 slayings and 21 assaults, kidnappings and rapes in a rampage that California authorities believe may have begun with a June 1984 mur-

der—paint a picture of a youth who early on was known as a loner and troublemaker.

He progressed from glue sniffing in his early teens to marijuana smoking in high school and an expensive cocaine habit as a young man.

Known as a petty thief as a teen-ager, he apparently became fascinated both with the art of burglary and, later, Satanism. He began by shoplifting junk food, practiced picking pockets among his friends—who say even they couldn't trust him—and apparently taught himself to be an accom-

Please see RAMIREZ, Page 3

RAMIREZ:

Friends Knew Him as a Thief

Continued from Page 1

plished burglar.

Ramirez never seemed to have a job or a girlfriend. After going to California as a young man, he had money to buy drugs but lived in shabby hotels, merging with transients, drifters and small-time criminals on the Skid Rows of Los Angeles and San Francisco. A tall, skinny man who was self-conscious about his weight, he suffered such severe tooth decay that his gapped, discolored teeth were one of his most distinguishing features.

After minor run-ins with the law in El Paso and Los Angeles on drug and vehicle offenses, Ramirez was imprisoned in Los Angeles for nearly five months in 1983 on an auto theft conviction. He was convicted again in connection with an auto theft in late 1984, and served 36 days in Los Angeles County Jail. Both times, he provided aliases to authorities. The Night Stalker killings began shortly after his second release.

Dick Schuller, an electrical shop teacher at Ramirez's high school, remembered him as "essentially a troublemaker."

"He didn't give a damn about anything," Schuller said. "I do know that he hit the dope pretty hard, and that he was into heavy rock 'n' roll."

But Ramirez did not get much attention from administrators in a school with about 3,200 students. Cesar G. Mendoza and G. Irene Trejo, two assistant principals at El Paso's Jefferson High School when Ramirez was there, said he was a "quiet" boy whom they remembered primarily for his truancy.

Ramirez dropped out of high school shortly after his 17th birthday. In two or three years, he began drifting between El Paso and California.

Eddie Gonzales, 30, a neighborhood friend, said that on his last visit to El Paso, about two years ago, Ramirez did have one passion: "He really wanted to be a good burglar."

Recent news reports of "someone who had masterminded a big theft" had impressed Ramirez, who spent an evening drinking beer and talking "about burglaries he'd done," Gonzales said.

"He would just walk in and walk out, and people would be in the house, and wouldn't even know he was there," Gonzales said.

Gonzales said that Ramirez "was known around here as a thief" and was nicknamed "Dedos"—Spanish for "fingers."

"He might rip you off, but he wasn't the kind of guy you'd be afraid to walk into in the middle of the night," Gonzales said.

Gonzales also said that as a teen-ager, Ramirez would shoplift junk food.

"He'd wear some big coat, and hide whatever



JOE KENNEDY / Los Angeles Times

Ramirez under arrest in Los Angeles: "He's a skinny guy—I don't see how he could get so tough," a former neighbor remarked.

he took," Gonzales said. "He used to love those Hershey bars."

But Gonzales described Ramirez as "just a neighborhood character."

"I saw him on TV," Gonzales said. "He had a completely different look on his face from the last time I saw him. He's got a crazed look on his face that he didn't have when he was here. I'd sure like to know what changed the guy."

Gonzales offered some theories.

"He was alone a lot," Gonzales said. "Maybe that contributed to it. . . . I know he used to like to drop acid. He was here in my house (when he was about 18) and had dropped three tabs of acid. . . . Usually one tab of acid is a lot. Three, that's more than a lot."

Ramirez may also have been deeply affected by the death of his best friend, Nicholas Nevarez, in a gruesome traffic accident in 1980, Gonzales said. Ramirez was in the back seat when a van, driven by another friend, crashed into a fence, he said.

"The guy got impaled—that pole went right

through the guy," Gonzales said. "He saw the whole thing. I think maybe that accident had a lot to do with it."

□

Born in El Paso on Feb. 28, 1960, Ramirez—whose name is given as Ricardo Ramirez on the birth records at the El Paso county clerk's office—was the youngest of five children in a Catholic family.

His father, Julian Ramirez, is a longtime employee of the Santa Fe Railway. His mother also worked while he was growing up, neighbors say. They recall that his parents were strict and old-fashioned. They often took the children to a nearby church, later demolished for construction of a freeway interchange that neighborhood residents call "the spaghetti bowl."

Ramirez's sister, Rosa Flores, still lives in the small white stucco house on Ledo Street where the children grew up, but the parents moved three or four years ago to a tract home on the edge of town.

In an interview with the El Paso Times on the day of his son's arrest, Julian Ramirez blamed his son's difficulties on marijuana. He also said that while he was born in Mexico, his wife and children were all El Paso natives.

Flores later declined a reporter's request to speak with the family, citing advice from an attorney.

School records show that Ramirez entered a Head Start program, aimed at helping children from disadvantaged families, in 1966, and began first grade later that year.

Frances Yvonne Bustillos, who grew up a few doors down Ledo Street from the Ramirez home, remembered Richard as "a quiet boy" in grade school.

"He would play around with the kids during recess and lunch," said Bustillos, 25. "In about the 8th grade, he started sniffing glue, I know that. I guess that's how he got started on drugs. From that, he went to marijuana."

Bustillos said her most vivid memory of Ramirez was that as a fifth- and sixth-grader at Cooley, he "used to have seizures."

"All of a sudden, you'd turn around and he'd be kicking and screaming, and they'd have to take him out," she said. "We don't know if they were epileptic seizures."

Bustillos and school officials said they were not aware of any such problem after Ramirez got older.

Ramirez was sometimes called "Ricky Robon"—Ricky the Thief in Spanish, Bustillos said.

Bustillos recalled that she and other neighborhood girls sometimes teased Ramirez by

RAMIREZ: Friends Recall an Early Goal - to Be a Good Burglar

Continued from Page 3

calling out, "It's time to close your doors—here comes Ricky Robon" when they saw him coming down the street.

"We used to make a joke of it," she said. "He'd just pass by. It didn't bother him."

Bustillos said that "around the neighborhood, he tried to get into houses" but that she never knew of him getting away with anything of great value.

"I guess at that time, it was more that he was seeing if he could get into the house," she said. "At school, he would pick purses and pockets, and see how much money he could get. Among his friends, he'd practice."

Several neighbors, however, said they never knew of Ramirez causing trouble.

"He was a pretty good guy," said Armando Sanchez, 58, who lived down the street. "He didn't bother anybody. Actually, I don't think he did it. He's a skinny guy—I don't see how he could get so tough."

Ramirez entered Jefferson High School in 1974. He was registered as a student until early 1977, but was absent so much that he never got out of freshman classification, school officials say.

After dropping out of school, Ramirez was assigned to a halfway house for delinquent youths.

His name first appears in El Paso Police Department records on Dec. 7, 1977, when a traffic stop led to his arrest on suspicion of marijuana possession.

In addition to a small quantity of marijuana, police found a ski mask, a toy cap pistol and a purse belonging to a woman who had reported it stolen from her handbag while she was shopping the day before, said Bill Moody, Assistant Dist. Atty. in El Paso. He said there was insufficient evidence to prosecute the purse-snatching charge.

Ramirez was arrested three more times in El Paso for alleged marijuana possession. He completed a pretrial intervention program in a 1978 case; charges were dismissed for insufficient evidence in a 1979 case. His only conviction was in a 1982 case, when he pleaded guilty, and was given a 50-day suspended sentence, and fined \$115, Moody said.

Ramirez spent the summer of 1980 in the San Francisco Bay Area, recalled Earl Gregg Jr., 25, who said he lived with Ramirez in Richmond for about four months at that time.

Ramirez later lived in other parts of the Bay Area for a few years, moving to Los Angeles in late 1983, Gregg said.

While Ramirez lived in San Francisco, Gregg said, "he seemed like a good person." Gregg added,

however, that "even though we were friends I still knew I couldn't trust him."

"There's something about him . . . if I had a thousand dollars sitting there, I wouldn't have the guy alone with it," he said.

Ramirez "had a fascination for guns and knives," Gregg added.

Gregg, who now lives in Lompoc, said that when Ramirez moved to Los Angeles in late 1983, he changed dramatically. In Los Angeles, he started injecting cocaine and became involved in Satanism, Gregg said.

Gregg said he saw Ramirez periodically when he returned to the Bay Area for visits after he moved to Los Angeles.

When he returned from Los Angeles he had a witch's star—a star with a circle around it—tattooed on his elbow, Gregg said. Gregg said he believed that Ramirez's drug use "got him susceptible to people talking about Satanism."

"He was a follower, not a leader," Gregg said. "He was the kind of guy you could say, 'come on, let's do this,' and you could totally talk him into things."

Gregg said he never knew Ramirez to date.

"He was too shy to go up to a girl and ask her for a date," he said.

Donna Louise Myers, Gregg's mother-in-law who lives in the San Francisco suburb of San Pablo,

said she met Ramirez while in El Paso on vacation about six years ago.

After 1981 he visited her in San Francisco about every four to six weeks, she said. He had no permanent address or job, stayed at "cheap hotels and flophouses" and carried most of his possessions in a backpack, she said.

"He did a lot of coke," she said, adding that she did not know where he got the money for such an expensive habit.

"I presume he ripped people off," she said. "He didn't tell me where it came from, and he didn't work. He always had money, though."

"He was very far into Satanism," she added. "Satan was his friend; he said."

He read comic books and detective magazines, and enjoyed such rock groups as AC/DC and Judas Priest, she said.

Ramirez traveled between Northern and Southern California, usually by plane, and used public transportation within San Francisco, Myers said.

"If he brought a car (on visits to San Francisco), it wasn't his," she added.

Ramirez "always remarked about how skinny he was" and was very self-conscious about his weight, she said.

Although he "was heavy into coke and said Satan was his hero

that doesn't make him a weirdo," Myers said.

Once, she recalled, he stopped by to visit just as the Stalker composite sketch was being shown on television.

"He asked me if I thought he could be the Night Stalker," she recalled. "I said no, I didn't think he had the guts. He just laughed. . . . If you knew him, you wouldn't think in a thousand years he could do something like this."

During recent months, Ramirez spent a considerable amount of time living and eating in establishments near Main and 7th streets at the edge of Skid Row in downtown Los Angeles, business owners and workers in that area say.

Alfredo Leyva, a waiter at Margarita's Place, said Ramirez had come in to eat about 10 times, the

most recent being two months ago.

"He always come in alone," Leyva said. "He don't talk with nobody."

"This guy, he looked like he was scared of something," Leyva said.

Last week after his arrest, sheriff's deputies said Ramirez appeared calm and relaxed. He was eating three meals a day and sleeping well in his cell in the clinic block of Los Angeles Central jail, said Deputy Rick Adams.

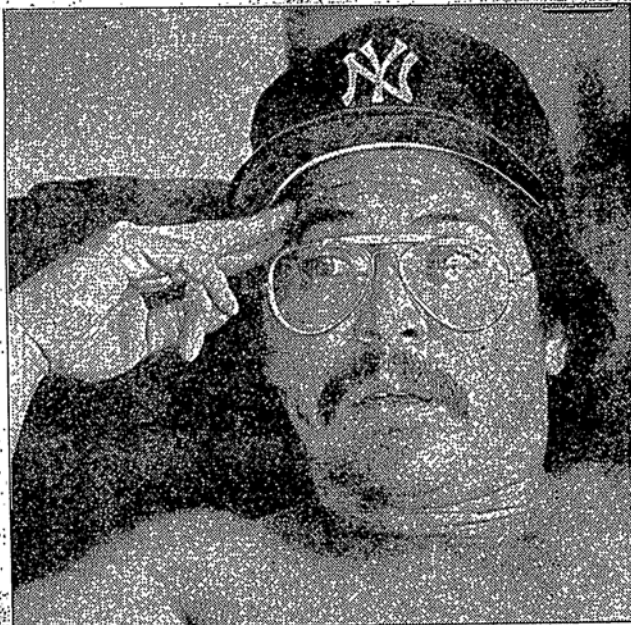
A team of deputies was keeping him under a round-the-clock suicide watch.

David Holley reported from El Paso. Contributing to this article were Bob Baker, Leonard Greenwood, Eric Malnic and Scott Ostler in Los Angeles, Miles Corwin in Lompoc and Dan Morain and Mark A. Stein in the Bay Area.



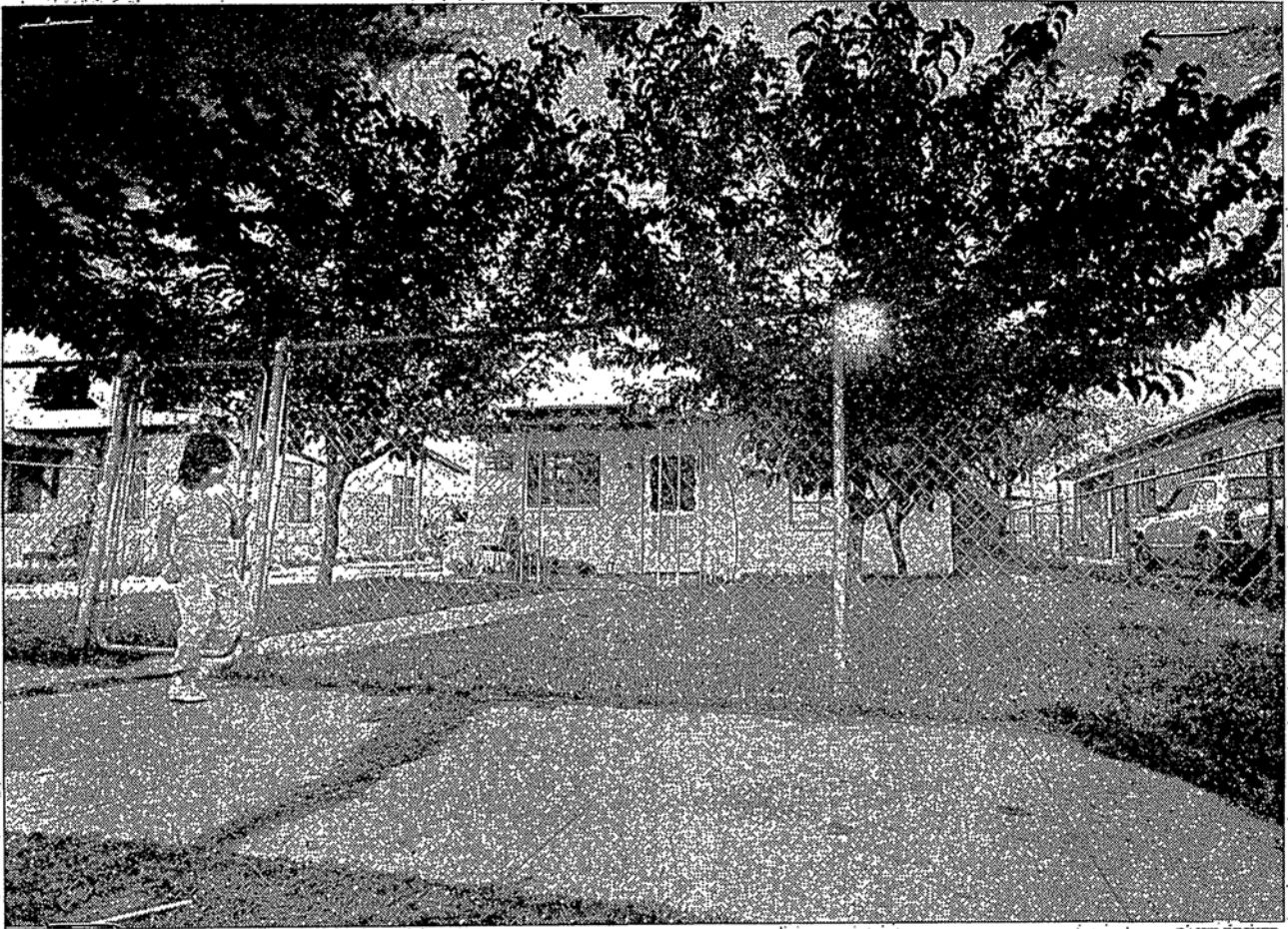
'In about the 8th grade, he started sniffing glue, I know that. I guess that's how he got started on drugs. From that, he went to marijuana.'

— **Frances Yvonne Bustillos**, a neighbor of the young Ramirez



'You might be careful of him, he might rip you off but he wasn't the kind of guy you'd be afraid to walk into in the middle of the night.'

— **Eddie González**, an El Paso neighborhood friend of Ramirez



DAVID J. PHILLIPS

Youngster walks by small, stucco house in El Paso, where Night Stalker suspect Richard Ramirez spent much of his childhood.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 1

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Law Enforcement Aided by Public**Search for the Stalker
—Unity Born of Fear***"It will take a combination of police and citizen effort to break this case. Be our eyes out there."*

—Monterey Park Police Chief Jon D. Elder, July 11, 1985

By CAROL MCGRAW and DAVID FREED, Times Staff Writers

And that's the way it happened. The police and the community together stalked the Night Stalker.

As the killer blazed a trail of violence from the Southland to San Francisco, homicide detectives relied on high-tech crime analysis, old-fashioned shoe leather and their own gut hunches to track him. But it was the public's survival instincts—and more than a little luck—that finally snared a suspect—Richard Ramirez, a 25-year-old Texas drifter—to end one of the most intense manhunts in California history.

It was a race against death. Police feared that the stalker would strike again; citizens feared that they might be next.

While detectives, desperate for leads, scrutinized thousands of clues, tipsters called in thousands more. While policemen staked out Skid Row hotels and a Chinatown dentist, homeowners patrolled their own backyards and alleys.

As investigators questioned construction workers and searched remote hillside farms for distinctive tennis shoe prints left by the stalker, families turned on floodlights, barricaded doors and bought guns. And eight days ago, as a panicked Ramirez fled through the streets of East Los Angeles after glimpsing his picture in a newspaper, citizens using their fists and a steel rod caught up with him first, minutes ahead of the lawmen.

Detectives hugged each other and hundreds of bystanders cheered as the suspect was hauled off to jail.

Last Tuesday, Ramirez was arraigned on a single murder count and seven other charges stemming from two late-night attacks in early May in the San Gabriel Valley. Authorities in San Francisco charged him with an Aug. 17 murder there. Ramirez has not yet entered pleas to these charges.

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STALKER: Public Aided Law Enforcement Agencies in Search

Continued from Page 1

The stalker investigation, even larger than the infamous 1977-79 Hillside Strangler case, was puzzling from the start.

Unlike other serial murder cases, this one seemed to have no distinct pattern.

At least 15 people died in the stalker's bloody rampage, which may have begun as early as 1981, investigators believe. At least 21 victims survived his assaults.

Prowling the freeway corridors of Los Angeles and beyond, the stalker preyed upon businessmen, Asian immigrants, grandmothers and retired couples. He kidnaped children off streets and sexually assaulted them; he dragged one woman from her car and shot her repeatedly. Most often, he crept into tidy tract homes through unlocked windows and doors before dawn, cut telephone wires and attacked his victims while they slept.

In serene middle-class neighborhoods, he killed men first, then turned to their women. He bludgeoned, slashed throats, raped, sodomized and shot his prey, using .22-caliber and .25-caliber pistols—easily concealed weapons that make relatively little noise, police said.

Wearing soft cotton gloves, he also killed and maimed with a tire iron and a claw hammer. Some victims were handcuffed to door knobs or bound with electrical extension cords and brutalized.

Afterward, according to a police source, the stalker "stuck the shiv in even further," casually snacking on leftovers in the kitchens of some victims. He raped one woman and then ordered her to cook him a meal. He gouged out the eyes of another victim.

He sometimes stole their jewelry, television sets, cameras and even their suitcases.

Police first suspected in April that at least four unsolved murders in the San Gabriel Valley had been committed by the same killer. It was four more months, however, before authorities publicly disclosed their ominous suspicions: that a serial killer was on the loose.

For Lt. Joe Santoro of the Monterey Park Police Department, the suspicions became reality July 7, with the investigation of the murder of Joyce Nelson, a 61-year-old grandmother and assembly line worker found beaten to death in her modest white-shuttered home.

"When we went out to the Nelson house, we all had a sick feeling that these were not coincidences, there was someone really terrible and bad out there killing and killing and killing," Santoro said.

Monterey Park Police Chief Jon D. Elder and Los Angeles County Sheriff Sherman Block talked urgently by phone that day—and the concept of a multiagency task force to investigate the string of murders

was born. A few nights later, Elder addressed a jammed City Council chambers to plead with 650 anxious residents, "It will take a combination of police and citizen efforts to break the case," he said. "Help us. Be our eyes out there."

Obsessed with the case, Elder worked behind his desk during the day and went out on patrol at night.

"Even we didn't understand completely at that time what would come from the unity of the people and the law enforcement agencies," Santoro recalled.

It came to be known as the Night Stalker Task Force, but that was a misnomer. They cooperated, but the more than 60 detectives assigned to the case from police agencies throughout Los Angeles County did not work out of the same squad room. There was no central headquarters, no single commander.

Homicide detectives are regarded by their peers as an egotistical, fiercely independent lot, loyal to their departments. Those traits held true in the massive hunt for the stalker.

The 20 Los Angeles police officers assigned to stalker-related murders in the city pursued their own leads, as did the 35 detectives from the Sheriff's Department. Investigators from Glendale, Monrovia, Monterey Park, Whittier, San Gabriel and Arcadia performed similarly.

"It's not a task force really," Cmdr. William Booth, a Los Angeles Police Department spokesman, said early in the investigation. "We (the Police Department) have our group and they (the Sheriff's Department) have their group."

Nonetheless, with the Sheriff's Department coordinating efforts, investigators put aside interagency rivalries to compare notes. At first weekly, and later more often, they met in the Sheriff's Department Homicide Bureau to map their strategy.

The investigators, despite their different affiliations, developed few personal animosities. Sometimes, however, relations were strained.

Police chiefs from smaller departments participating in the case complained privately that the news media often were briefed by the Sheriff's Department and Los Angeles police before they could be told of the latest development in the fast-breaking investigation.

Communications between the Sheriff's Department and Police Department also seemed poorly coordinated at times.

At one point, Los Angeles police put out a bulletin announcing that they had linked three more murder cases to the stalker, bringing the number of victims to 17. Police refused to provide details on those new cases, except to say that one of the murders involved William Carns, a Mission Viejo man shot in the head in an attack on Aug. 25.

Carns was not killed, however. He suffered grave head wounds

and remains hospitalized; his condition is reported to be improving.

"They made a boo-boo; they miscounted and added (non-fatal) assaults to the list of murders and then they wouldn't admit that they screwed up," said a Sheriff's Department source close to the investigation. "We had been saying all along that we had 14 murders at the time, but we backed them up anyway because we felt it was important not to show disunity."

Only last week did police officials back away from their earlier tally. "We're not going to talk numbers now," Booth told a reporter.

Jurisdictional rivalry even surfaced on the day Ramirez was caught by citizens in East Los

"They made our guy look idiotic because they practically overpowered him and kidnaped his prisoner," said a ranking Sheriff's Department official. "We were all a little unhappy with that."

The Sheriff's Department also was privately miffed because the Police Department staged its own press conference immediately after the arrest.

Discord proved a rarity. If anything, authorities were too busy to squabble.

"There was a concern to get (the suspect) off the streets," said Capt. Robert Grimm, head of the Sheriff's Department Homicide Bureau. "Everyone became involved when they saw all the hurt, the wounds on the bodies, the devastation in the homes, what it was doing to the community."

Many investigators assigned to the case worked seven days a week, and 16-hour days were not uncommon. There were not many days off.

One veteran Sheriff's Department homicide detective, Sgt. Frank Salerno, "had to be kicked

out the office to go to his son's wedding reception," Grimm said. Another investigator spent so little time at home that his wife and family, fearful of the stalker, moved in with relatives.

The detectives' job of sifting through mountains of evidence grew even tougher after a composite drawing of the suspect was released in August and hundreds of tips began coming in each day from frightened citizens.

"Everyone in town thought they'd had dinner with him, seen him in a gas station or knew him at church," said one officer.

The public's seemingly frenzied attempts to help produced an assortment of bizarre tips. Even they

were not ignored.

The killer had been described as tall, thin, smooth-shaven, curly-haired and gapped-toothed. That did not stop people from reporting suspicious characters who were short, fat, bearded, bald and had good teeth.

"We had to work every scrap of information," Grimm said. "As an investigator, you cannot ever invalidate any tip until you check it out. . . . If you don't, it will kill you."

Information about unsolved

murders, assaults, rapes and burglaries that seemed even remotely linked to the stalker's *modus operandi* were fed into a computer. More important, the bits of information were cross-indexed, much as books in a library are, so that obvious connections were not missed.



Los Angeles Times

"There was a concern to get (the suspect) off the streets. Everyone became involved when they saw all the hurt, the wounds on the bodies, the devastation in the homes, what it was doing to the community."

— Capt. Robert Grimm, head of Sheriff's Homicide Bureau

Angeles, just outside Los Angeles city limits, in the Sheriff's Department patrol area. Ramirez was handcuffed by a lone deputy who had arrived on the scene moments before, but half a dozen Los Angeles police officers took the suspect into custody and drove him to the Police Department's Hollenbeck station.

Detectives had learned their lesson about cross-indexing during the Hillside Strangler case. In that investigation, one of the killers was interviewed three times by police agencies that were unaware that he had been questioned before because the information was not properly filed, Salerno said.

Salerno's partner, Detective Gil Carrillo, was among the first lawmen to examine the stalker's handiwork.

On March 17, Carrillo got a call to investigate a murder at a Rosemead condominium. Dayle Okazaki, a 34-year-old county worker, had been found on her kitchen floor by her roommate. She had been shot in the head. Her roommate was wounded.

In the garage, investigators found a baseball cap bearing the logo of the rock band AC/DC. The band's music, according to some, contains musical themes with satanic overtones.

Informants told police after Ramirez's capture that the suspect is a fan of AC/DC and is particularly enamored of the band's 1979 "Highway to Hell" album. One of the songs on the album, entitled "Night Prowler," is hauntingly prophetic:

Was that a noise outside the window? What's that shadow on the blind? As you lie there naked like a body in a tomb, suspended animation as I slip into your room. I'm your night prowler.

As authorities probed deeper, they began to discover other clues that suggested involvement in satanic activities.

The stalker, investigators believe, drew pentagrams on the walls at some murder scenes. Such

symbols are said to suggest the devil's horns.

Another lead sent detectives to a La Habra Heights farm in east Los Angeles County, where satanic rituals had been conducted. There, and at several stalker murder scenes, investigators found the imprint of an expensive tennis shoe, a distinctive octagonal pattern.

The stalker is believed to have worn those shoes on May 14 when he slipped into a Monterey Park home to fatally shoot William Doi in the face. Handcuffs used to restrain Doi's wife while she was savagely assaulted were left at the scene.

The ballistics from the gun used to shoot Doi were linked to other murders attributed to the stalker.

Although the shoes have not been found, Dist. Atty. Ira Reiner used other evidence left at the Doi's house in filing murder charges against Ramirez last week.

In July, Doi's next door neighbor, Neil Barbanell, became part of the large citizen Neighborhood Watch program that expanded dramatically in Southern California because of the stalker threat.

The 58-year-old pharmaceutical salesman vowed to do as much as he could when Monterey Park's police chief made his plea for civilian assistance. "I could tell they were desperate," he said.

He and his neighbors stood watch from midnight to dawn, staying inside their homes as police suggested.

Recalling his lonely vigils, he said: "I would stand at my kitchen window, lean on the sink, listen to the radio and look out into the dark. Then I'd move to the south bedroom window and do the same. I kept telling myself he wouldn't come back here, that I shouldn't be afraid, but it was always there at the back of my mind."

On Aug. 9, Block disclosed the names of more murder victims thought to be linked to the serial killer. Grimly, he offered reporters:

Please see **STALKER**, Page 35

STALKER: Public's Unity Born of Fear Aided in Capture of Suspect

Continued from Page 34

a fateful prediction: "I would suspect that this guy may wind up getting caught by a homeowner."

The investigation was by then moving in several directions.

For weeks, investigators had staked out a walk-in dental clinic in Los Angeles' Chinatown where a man identifying himself as Richard Mena had sought treatment for his decaying teeth. Authorities suspected early on that Mena might be the stalker.

That lead had developed June 15, when a man was stopped by Los Angeles police in the department's Northwest Division. He had been driving a stolen car and fled on foot, leaving behind a business card from the Chinatown dentist, who was able to provide authorities with the name Richard Mena.

Mena had visited the clinic six times from March to May 30. He had undergone root canal work and had temporary caps placed on some

of his teeth.

"He had terrible decay in most of his teeth, but it wasn't from disease," said Dr. Kenneth K. Tse, who heads the dental clinic. "It was from neglect."

Those who know Ramirez said after his arrest that he made meals of Pepsi and chocolate and never brushed his teeth.

Although detectives checked the Mena name through a myriad sources, they were unable to find the suspect. The name Mena, police eventually discovered, was only one of many used by Ramirez. Other aliases included Richard Moreno, Noah Jimenez, Nicholas Adame and Richard Munoz.

Although investigators hoped that he would return to the clinic for permanent dental caps, he did not.

Other leads were explored.

Los Angeles area pawnshops, particularly those in the San Gabriel Valley, were alerted in hopes that the stalker would try to sell

some of the more than 2,000 pieces of jewelry he had taken from his victims.

Several of the murder scenes were near construction sites, so detectives combed unsuccessfully through employee lists to see if the suspect might have worked as a laborer.

In late August, about a week before Ramirez's capture, authorities received another important tip from the public.

A Los Angeles resident told them that the stalker was named Rick and that he frequented Skid Row hotels. Lawmen began yet another stakeout, this time downtown.

It was 60 miles away on Aug. 25, in the Orange County community of Mission Viejo, that a 13-year-old boy gave police one of their most important leads.

The observant teen-ager, James Romero III, was in his parents' garage working on a motorbike when he spotted an orange Toyota

station wagon that he thought was suspicious. He called police and gave them a partial license number.

Ninety minutes later and a mile away, police believe, the stalker slipped into yet another house and shot William Carns in the head and raped his girlfriend.

The next morning, Jon Quinn Jr., who runs a health food store at 6th and Alexander streets west of downtown Los Angeles, spotted the car parked in the lot of his small shopping center. Quinn regularly takes down license plates of cars in the lot because of illegal parking there. On Tuesday, the car was still there and authorities were notified.

Four plainclothesmen staked out the Toyota until the next morning, hoping that the person who stole it would return. When he did not, it was taken by flatbed truck to Orange County Sheriff's Department facilities, where two of the latest scientific methods were used to retrieve evidence.

The first involved using Super-glue fumes, which react to moisture in fingerprints, turning the prints white. The other, a laser, enhances prints that are partly wiped clean. A partial print was found on a window of the station wagon and sent to the state De-

partment of Justice in Sacramento.

It was a fluke that Ramirez's fingerprints, taken in December, 1984, after his arrest on stolen vehicle charges, showed up in the computer's memory banks. The only prints that have been fed into the new system are those of offenders born after Jan. 1, 1960. Ramirez was born on Feb. 28 of that year.

The same day the state's computer identified Ramirez's prints, a San Pablo woman told Lompoc police that her family had purchased jewelry in San Francisco from a man whom she knew only as Rick. The man, she said matched a description of the stalker.

Police determined that the jewelry had been stolen Aug. 15 in a San Francisco burglary that occurred two days before San Francisco accountant Peter Pan, 66, was shot dead in a slaying that has been linked to the stalker.

The woman provided authorities with the names of two men who ultimately provided Ramirez's true identity.

That afternoon, Block, Los Angeles Police Chief Daryl F. Gates and Orange County Sheriff Brad Gates debated whether to release Ramirez's name and his police mug shot to the public.

Officials worried that the plan might have devastating effect on the case.

On one hand, they would be giving the killer an opportunity flee and destroy evidence. On the other, the public had been unable to identify him from the composite drawing that was released more than a month earlier. Identifying him by name and picture could possibly lead to a quick arrest.

Less than 12 hours later, Ramirez walked into an East Los Angeles grocery store and saw his face on the front page of a Spanish-language newspaper. He fled, and within minutes everyone along his path seemed to recognize him and call police.

When he turned onto Hubbard Street, he tried to steal cars and hit one woman in the stomach in an attempt to get her keys. She screamed, and her husband and several neighbors took after the suspect, flaying him with a fence rod. Exhausted, Ramirez slumped to a curb; neighbors held him for police.

The partnership between authorities and the community had succeeded.

Times staff writers Mark Arax and Marita Hernandez contributed to this story.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Ramirez tells lawyer he's innocent

*Stalker suspect
'talkative,' upbeat*

By Andy Furillo
Herald staff writer

Night Stalker suspect Richard Ramirez cracked jokes, inquired about his attorney's religious beliefs and maintained his innocence during a jailhouse conversation with his El Paso lawyer last night.

After spending 45 minutes talking with Ramirez, attorney Manuel Barraza said the suspected serial killer "seemed talkative" and appeared to be in an upbeat mood during their conversation in the Los Angeles County Jail.

Asked to describe the 25-year-old drifter's jokes, Barraza said, "He said everybody was scared of him because of the satanic aspect. He asked me what I believed in. He asked me if I believe in God. I said 'yes.'"

"Satanic symbols have been found at some of the Night Stalker murder sites, but prosecutors have played down the aspect of ritualism as a motive behind the slayings.

Barraza's comments to reporters at the County Jail provided insight into the mood of the suspected Night Stalker since Ramirez was arrested Aug. 31 in East Los Angeles.

"He's in good spirits," Barraza said of Ramirez. "He seemed normal to me."

The suspect, he said, "is still maintaining his innocence."

Ramirez was quoted by the people who chased him down and held him for authorities in East Los Angeles as saying "It's me!" when he was captured.

"What he was saying was, 'It's me, Richard Ramirez,' not 'It's me, Richard Ramirez, the Night

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

A-1 HERALD EXAMINER
LOS ANGELES, CA

Date: 9/10/85

Edition: Tuesday

Title: RAMIREZ TELLS LAWYER
HE'S INNOCENT

Character:

or

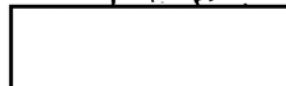
Classification:

Submitting Office: Los Angeles

Indexing:

252B-1

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SERIALIZED	FILED
OCT 10 1985	
FBI - LOS ANGELES	



Info

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Stalker," Barraza said.

Barraza said that Ramirez is being treated well in jail and that authorities have provided him with books to read. The lawyer did not identify the reading material.

The primary concern of the Night Stalker suspect thus far, Barraza said, is the massive pre-trial publicity that is surrounding the case.

"He's pretty concerned," Barraza said. "He's refused all interviews so far. He's just not used to this. I'm kind of overwhelmed myself by the attention."

"He feels that the whole system is against him."

In an earlier interview, Barraza said the publicity "is going to make it nearly impossible for him to get a fair trial (in Los Angeles). In the eyes of the public, he has already been judged guilty."

Barraza, 30, said he has been asked by Ramirez's family to take on the case. But he added that the expected length of the trial, which could last more than a year, might preclude him from handling it.

In the meantime, Ramirez's attorney of record, Deputy Public Defender Allen Adashek, said yesterday that the widespread publicity has made it all but impossible for Ramirez to receive a fair trial in Los Angeles.

"The publicity in this case has been so intense and so frequent, it certainly raises the question of whether a fair trial can be held in Los Angeles County," said Adashek.

Ramirez, meanwhile, appeared in court again yesterday but once more declined to enter a plea to the eight criminal charges — including one murder count — that have been filed against him in Los Angeles County.

He was scheduled to return to



Richard Ramirez appears in court to face eight charges, including one of murder.

Los Angeles Municipal Court on Sept. 27.

Deputy District Attorney Phil Halpin said he would oppose a change of venue motion if Ramirez's attorneys attempt to transfer the case to another county.

Halpin added that it is "almost certain" additional charges will be filed against Ramirez before the suspect's next court date. The prosecutor did not say if new murder charges would be included.

Ramirez appeared calm and stood upright during his appearance yesterday in front of Municipal Judge Elva Soper. He only responded once, answering "yes" when he was asked if he agreed to delay entering his plea.

Two murder charges have been filed against Ramirez. In Los Angeles County, he is accused of the May 14 slaying of William Doi, 65, of Monterey Park. San Francisco authorities have charged Ramirez with the Aug. 17 slaying of Peter

Pan, 66. He is also charged with sexually assaulting Doi's wife and with additional burglary and robbery counts in connection with the break-in at the Doi residence and another that occurred May 9 at the Monrovia home of Clara Hadsall, 85.

Adashek, in addition to decrying the pre-trial publicity, took a swipe yesterday at public officials who he said have assumed Ramirez is guilty by bestowing commendations on citizens who helped identify and capture the suspect.

"It's bothersome when public officials make statements that appear to presume guilt," Adashek said. "I've read and heard and seen comments from officials who I would like to think would have a little more respect for the presumption of innocence."

"They're talking about giving out reward money and certificates when the case hasn't even begun yet," Adashek added.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Loot Linked to Ramirez Found in El Paso Home

By DAVID FREED and DAVID HOLLEY, *Times Staff Writers*

About 300 rings, necklaces, brooches and other articles allegedly stolen by Night Stalker suspect Richard Ramirez were recovered last week from the home of his sister in El Paso, it was disclosed Tuesday.

It also was revealed that Los Angeles County sheriff's investigators searched without success in El Paso for a pair of eyes gouged from the head of a murder victim in Whittier.

Searching for the eyes and other evidence in an attempt to tie Ramirez to victims of the so-called Night Stalker, Los Angeles County sheriff's investigators and El Paso police last Wednesday went to the El Paso home of Ramirez's sister, Rosa Flores. There, they said, they found about 300 rings, necklaces, brooches and other articles allegedly stolen by Ramirez.

The missing brown eyes, however, were not found and the search for them continues, authorities said.

Capt. Robert Grimm, commander of the Los Angeles County sheriff's homicide bureau, would not discuss in detail what led detectives to suspect that the eyes may have been sent to El Paso.

"We searched the (murder) scene thoroughly and they weren't discovered," Grimm said. "We had information that stolen property had been sent to El Paso, and the eyes were still outstanding, and that's the rationale."

Despite the discovery of allegedly stolen articles in Flores' house, Grimm said Los Angeles authorities do not consider her an accessory in the case.

"At this point, there is nothing to indicate that she violated California law, which says that you have to know the items that you're accepting have been stolen," Grimm said.

According to an affidavit filed in seeking the El Paso search warrant, authorities also hoped to find pistols, ammunition, double-edged

daggers, carpet knives, handcuffs, binoculars and paraphernalia related to satanic cults that may have been used by Ramirez.

Also sought were bloodstained clothing, tape recordings, video tapes or photographs of victims.

None of those items was found at Flores' house, nor were any discovered during a search at the El Paso home of Ramirez's parents, Julian and Mercedes Ramirez, authorities said.

Ramirez, a 25-year-old drifter, is suspected in at least 15 California slayings since 1984 and 21 assaults, rapes and kidnappings. Authorities believe that those crimes were committed by a lone intruder who entered homes before dawn through open windows and unlocked doors to attack his sleeping victims.

Formally charged in two homicides, Ramirez has yet to enter a plea and is being held without bail in Los Angeles County Jail.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

II-1 LOS ANGELES TIMES
LOS ANGELES, CA

Date: 9/11/85
Edition: Wednesday

Title: LOOT LINKED TO RAMIREZ
FOUND IN EL PASO HOME

Character:
or
Classification:
Submitting Office: Los Angeles

Indexing:

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FBI/DOJ

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Judge Imposes Gag Order on Stalker Case Comments

By PAUL FELDMAN, *Times Staff Writer*

A Los Angeles Municipal Court judge on Tuesday imposed a gag order forbidding public comments by lawyers, police and other officials involved in the highly publicized murder case of Night Stalker suspect Richard Ramirez.

The order was issued by Judge Elva R. Soper at the request of Ramirez's attorney, Deputy Public Defender Allen Adashek. At a brief hearing before Soper, in which Ramirez looked on, Deputy Dist. Atty. P. Philip Halpin, who is prosecuting the case, did not protest the order.

Ramirez, 25, who is scheduled to enter pleas Sept. 27, is being held without bail in Los Angeles County Jail on charges of one count of murder and seven other felonies in Los Angeles County. He has also been charged with murder, attempted murder, burglary and robbery by San Francisco authorities.

The El Paso native, a drifter who

has spent much of the last five years in California, is suspected by authorities of having committed as many as 14 slayings and 21 assaults, kidnappings and rapes in a grisly spree that may have begun in June, 1984.

Overriding Adashek's objection, Soper also has granted a request by Halpin that dental X-rays, photos and impressions of Ramirez's teeth be taken by the county medical examiner's office for use as evidence.

In a statement to the judge Friday, Halpin said Ramirez's "teeth are unique in appearance and are believed to have been described by numerous victims and witnesses for the prosecution.

"It is also believed that the defendant was being treated dentally at the time of the commission of these crimes and that X-rays taken during the course of that

Please see JUDGE, Page 2

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

11-1 LOS ANGELES TIMES

LOS ANGELES, CA

Date: 9/18/85

Edition: Wednesday

Title JUDGE INPOSES GAG ORDER
ON STALKER CASE COMMENTS

Character:

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FBI - LOS ANGELES	

ORIGINAL TO THE BUREAU

Continued from Page 1

treatment, when compared with these proposed X-rays, will help determine the defendant's whereabouts during the period in question."

Under the terms of the gag order, no witnesses, court officers, public officials, law enforcement officers or attorneys can publicly release purported statements from Ramirez or documents concerning the case. They are also precluded from commenting outside of court on the weight or effect of evidence against Ramirez or the identity of prospective witnesses.

Records Sealed

The order also seals court records, which, until Tuesday, contained little information except for a lengthy medical report pertaining to Ramirez's visits to County-USC Medical Center in 1983. The records, obtained from the hospital at the request of the prosecution, primarily concern a two-week hospitalization in September, 1983, in which Ramirez

was treated for an infection to a finger on his right hand.

Ramirez told doctors that he had been bitten on the hand by a man whom he had punched in the mouth. The records also included a report on a subsequent hospital visit that December, in which Ramirez was treated for a cut on his right hand.

The gag order follows Soper's approval Friday, at Adashek's request, of a ban on any attorneys or others from seeing Ramirez without the defender's approval.

Adashek has been publicly criticized by Manuel Barraza, an El Paso attorney who said he was retained by Ramirez's family. Barraza has contended that Adashek is more interested in money and fame through book and movie deals than in proving his client innocent—a charge that Adashek has strongly denied. Barraza has returned to El Paso, after making a series of comments to reporters about Ramirez after jailhouse visits with him.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)



Police drawing of suspect was based on description by survivor of recent attack.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 1
LOS ANGELES HERALD
LOS ANGELES, CA

Date: 9-24-85

Edition:

MURDER

Title:

Character:

or

Classification:

Submitting Office: LA

Indexing:

L.A.'s latest

serial killer

Police say one man's killed 10 prostitutes

By Steve Appleford
and Timothy Carlson
Herald staff writers

Police are seeking a single suspect who appears to be the latest serial killer plaguing the L.A. area.

Los Angeles Police Department homicide detectives, working with detectives in Inglewood and Gardena, have linked a series of 10 brutal slayings which have featured stabbing and strangulation of prostitutes. According to Inglewood detective Larry Marino, the first slaying occurred in his city Jan. 1, 1984. The latest slaying occurred Aug. 15 of this year in south Los Angeles.

"There is a distinct possibility we are dealing with a serial killer here," said Lt. Ed Henderson of the Los Angeles Police Department Robbery-Homicide Division.

Henderson said that one woman who survived an Aug. 6 attack provided police with a description of a man who is believed responsible for seven murders in Los Angeles, two in Inglewood and another in Gardena.

Henderson said the woman described the suspect as a black man, 30-35 years old, between 5 feet 10 inches and 6 feet tall, medium build, with black curly hair, brown eyes, a small mustache, straight white teeth, smooth skin and muscular arms and chest. The suspect wore a baseball cap with a patch on it bearing the word "FILA," a clothing manufacturer.

Based on the testimony of the woman who escaped the Aug. 6 attack by leaping from her attacker's moving car, a composite drawing was made last month.

"We waited until now to publicize the picture through the news media because we wanted our detectives to have a chance to develop their own leads first," Henderson said. "When we disseminate a composite drawing to the general public, we usually get a great number of leads that don't work out, so it provides a lot of extra work."

Henderson said the suspect's vehicle was described by the survivor of the Aug. 6 attack as a 1984 or 1985 dark-colored Buick Regal with a baby seat in the back. Based on the word of another witness who was not attacked, Henderson said the suspect may also drive a 1960s model Ford pickup with gray primer. Henderson refused to say exactly what linked all the murders, except to say that all but two of the women suffered cut wounds and all were strangled.

"It's basically an overkill type of situation," Henderson said of the conditions of the bodies, which were dumped in alleys and on

Murders/A-10, Col. 3

Police link 10 murders to latest L.A. serial killer

Murders/Continued from A-1

residential streets.

Based on information from the surviving victim and another source Henderson would not divulge, investigators believe the man beckoned streetwalkers from his car and then drove them to another location where he attacked them.

Henderson said that no fingerprints were found at the scene of the seven Los Angeles homicides.

The bodies of the women were found either naked or partially clothed, Henderson said.

Of the Los Angeles murder cases, five victims were black, two were white. All had records of prostitution, Henderson said.

Another woman in the Los Angeles area was attacked a few months ago and has remained in a coma ever since, Henderson said.

Inglewood detectives would not specify what race their victims were, nor would Gardena detectives.

The first victim was Patricia

Coleman, whose body was dumped in an Inglewood city park on Jan. 1, 1984.

Other victims include:

■ Gayle Marie Rousell, found in the 14500 block of Halldale Avenue in Gardena on Nov. 6, 1984.

■ Sheila Burris, found in the 9800 block of Grandee Avenue on Nov. 18, 1984.

■ Frankie Bell, found in the 10400 block of South Olive Street on Jan. 1, 1985.

■ Patricia Dennis, found in the 3500 block of Eighth Avenue on Feb. 11, 1985.

■ Shelly Wilson, found in a city park in Inglewood on March 20, 1985.

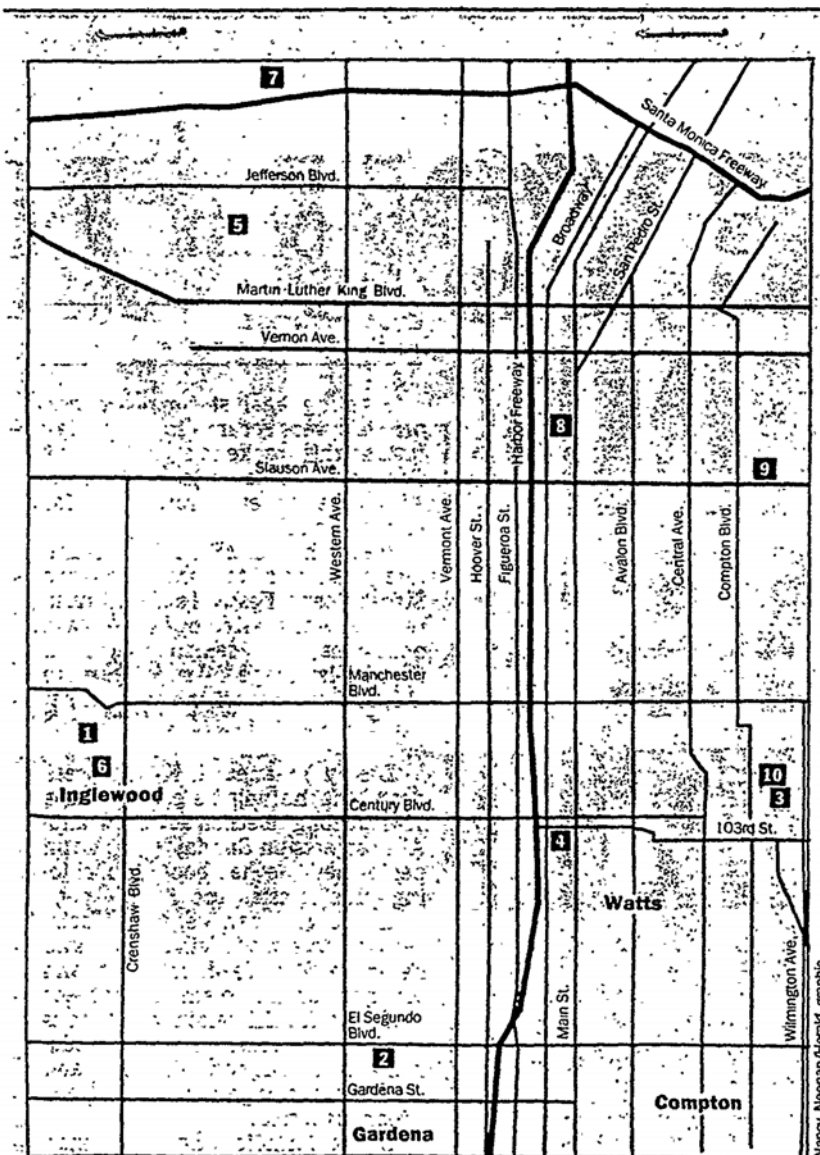
■ Lilian Stoval, found in the 2200 block of Sixth Avenue on March 23, 1985.

■ Patsy Webb, found in the 4700 block of South Broadway on April 15, 1985.

■ Cathy Gystaveson, found in the 1600 block of Slauson Avenue on July 28, 1985.

■ Gail Ficklin, found in the 9800 block of Grandee Avenue on Aug. 15, 1985.

Anyone with information concerning the suspect's identity is urged to contact John St. John or Fred Miller, Robbery-Homicide Division, Los Angeles Police Department, at (213) 485-2531 or (213) 485-2504 after regular business hours or on weekends.



1. Patricia Coleman, found in Inglewood park on Jan. 1, 1984
2. Gayle Marie Rousell, found on Gardena street on Nov. 6, 1984
3. Sheila Burris, found on Grandee Avenue on Nov. 18, 1984
4. Frankie Bell, found on South Olive Street on Jan. 1, 1985
5. Patricia Dennis, found on Eighth Avenue on Feb. 11, 1985
6. Shelly Wilson, found in Inglewood on March 20, 1985
7. Lillian Stoval, found on Sixth Avenue on March 23, 1985
8. Patsy Webb, found on South Broadway on April 15, 1985
9. Cathy Gystaveson, found on Slauson Avenue on July 28, 1985
10. Gail Ficklin, found on Grandee Avenue on Aug. 15, 1985

Woman Points to Ramirez as Killer, Rapist

From Times Wire Services

LA TIMES 4/15/86

A sobbing woman pointed to Richard Ramirez in court Monday, saying he was "the Night Stalker" who raped and sodomized her in a bedroom where her murdered husband lay under a sheet.

The young woman also indicated that the assailant sodomized her 8-year-old son, and said he forced her to perform oral copulation on him before he fled with the family's jewelry and money.

The woman frequently sobbed into her hands at the Los Angeles Municipal Court preliminary hear-

ing, which will determine if Ramirez, 26, will stand trial in a string of murders, rapes and beatings that terrorized Southern California last year. Some spectators in the crowded courtroom also wept as the witness struggled to explain the details of her ordeal.

"Do you see that man in the courtroom today?" asked the prosecutor, Deputy Dist. Atty. Philip Halpin.

"Yes," the woman replied before turning toward Ramirez and pointing her finger directly at him.

"Right there with the blue. That man," she said, referring to Ramirez's blue jail jump suit.

Judge James Nelson asked reporters to withhold the identity of the witness.

The shaggy-haired defendant showed no emotion as she testified. Occasionally during her cross-examination, Ramirez stretched and yawned. His lawyers' efforts to challenge her identification brought even more emphatic statements from the witness.

"Did you see his picture in the

newspaper?" defense attorney Daniel Hernandez asked at one point.

"I see him in my house and I see him in a picture and I see him on television everywhere," the woman said, growing agitated. "I tell you I saw this man in my house. He sits there right next to you!"

The woman said an intruder opened the sliding glass door to her living room the morning of July 20, 1985, pulled a gun, and announced, "Bitch, shut up!" She said he tied

Please see STALKER, Page 6

STALKER: Testimony

Continued from Page 1

her up, went to the bedroom and, within seconds, she heard a gun shot. She said the intruder returned, said her husband was dead and then, "If you don't do what I tell you, I'm going to kill your children." Then, he just picked me up and made me do everything awful," she added.

She said her assailant peered into a room in which her 2-year-old daughter was sleeping, but did not enter after she told him the girl would cry if disturbed.

Demands for Jewelry

The witness described how the man dragged her through the house, frantically demanding that she show him where jewelry was hidden. Each time he found some jewelry, she said, he was not satisfied and wanted more. Twice, she said, he dragged her back to the bedroom where her husband's dead body lay under a sheet, and raped her on the floor.

Once, she said, he left her tied up in the bedroom and went to the

room where her 8-year-old son had been awakened by an alarm clock. It was 6 a.m.

While he was in the son's room, she said she heard the boy cry. "It was a very pained cry. I could not do anything to help him."

The last thing she recalled was the intruder throwing things into a suitcase and pillowcase. She said he stuffed a sock in her mouth before leaving.

"I freed myself and I went to see my son. . . . He was bleeding. He was swollen. . . . I took my son and I went out for help."

Northridge Attack

Later in the day, Virginia Peterson, 27, testified matter-of-factly that Ramirez entered her Northridge home Aug. 6 and shot her and her husband, Christopher, 38, in bed. Both survived.

When asked by Halpin if the man who shot her was in court, she said, "He's the gentleman sitting over there in the blue jumpsuit."

Ramirez was silent, but later cracked his knuckles loudly as testimony continued.

The woman said a noise awakened her at 3 a.m. and she saw a tall, skinny man clad in dark clothing standing in the hallway.

"I screamed, 'Who are you? What do you want? And get out here. I started to curse. At that time, the person said, 'Shut up, bitch. Where is it?'" she testified.

He took a step forward, lowered the gun. I screamed. I saw a red flash coming at me. The bullet hit my head. My face went numb.

She said she heard another shot and her husband fell back. Then her husband leaped from the bed, and despite a temple wound, chased

Frail victim recalls Stalker's bloody visit

By Nancy Hill-Holtzman
Herald staff writer

A frail Pakistani-born woman yesterday identified Night Stalker suspect Richard Ramirez as the attacker who killed her husband and then commanded the terrified woman to swear upon Satan, that she wouldn't scream when he raped her.

The pale, distraught Diamond Bar resident came near collapse in the courtroom, and had to be helped to the witness stand by the bailiff.

In a soft, rapid voice, she told the hushed courtroom the bizarre order to swear on Satan followed an exchange in which her attacker cursed her and vowed to kill her two small sons if she screamed. "Oh, God, I am not going to scream," the woman promised.

He said, "Don't swear upon God, swear upon Satan," the woman testified.

Ramirez, 26, who is accused of 14 murders during the Night Stalker spree last year, has displayed an interest in Satanic symbols. During an earlier court appearance, he yelled "Hail, Satan!" and flashed a pentagram drawn on his hand. A pentagram appeared on the thigh of one Night Stalker victim and in the cell where Ramirez is held between court appearances.

The tiny victim, who was practically

carried to the witness stand by a bailiff after nearly collapsing in the courtroom, quietly told a tale of horror before making the hearing's most dramatic identification of Ramirez.

"Do you see the man here today who was in your house that morning?" asked Deputy District Attorney P. Philip Halpin.

At first the witness, who had kept her eyes on the prosecutor throughout her interrogation, seemed startled by the question. When Halpin repeated it, she looked out into the courtroom for the first time.

"Oh, yeah! Him!" she said vehemently, pointing at Ramirez, who appeared startled at her suddenly raised voice and grinned in response.

Yesterday's witness was the sixth surviving victim to identify Ramirez at the hearing on whether he should be tried for the murders and 54 other felony charges.

The 28-year-old woman said she was awakened in the middle of the night by a "popping noise, like somebody opening a soda." It was only later that the victim learned the noise was a shot that killed her sleeping husband.

Her hands and feet were bound and the woman said she was struck repeatedly by her assailant whenever she looked at him. "Don't look at me, bitch," he said.

The woman said she was beaten when the attacker refused to believe she didn't

After ripping off her clothes, the man demanded she orally copulate him and then raped her.

When her 3-year-old son awoke, the attacker allowed the woman to soothe him to sleep, but the boy woke up later and wandered into the guest room where his mother lay handcuffed and naked.

The woman said she told the toddler, "You don't shout, OK? The man is going to hit you and mama both, so just lie down with mama."

She pleaded with her assailant not to hurt her son. The man agreed to tie the boy up with his mother, but again threatened to kill her if she made any sound.

"You bitch, don't scream," he warned. The woman and her son were left handcuffed to the door. She was able to free her son and sent him in to rouse his father who she believed had been knocked unconscious by the intruder.

"Wake up, daddy. Wake up daddy," she heard the child say.

"Mama, daddy's not waking up," the boy said after returning to the guest bedroom. A second 3-month old baby slept through the August 8, 1985, incident.

Municipal Judge James Nelson took the unusual step of permitting the witness to write her name so it would not be spoken in court. The prosecutor asked for the protection, saying the issue was a religious matter to the woman.

LA HERALD 4/16/86

4/17/86

Ramirez Sold Him Victims' Items, Man Testifies

By PAUL FELDMAN, Times Staff Writer

An Echo Park man testified Wednesday that he bought several items of stolen merchandise from accused Night Stalker Richard Ramirez last year—including a television, a radio and jewelry that authorities say were later identified as having been taken during murders and other crimes attributed to Ramirez.

Felipe Solano, a laborer who was granted immunity to testify at Ramirez's preliminary hearing, said he turned the stolen items over to police shortly after Ramirez's arrest in East Los Angeles last Aug. 31.

According to testimony from Los Angeles County Sheriff's Deputy Carlos Avila, the merchandise included a radio later identified by the grandson of Monrovia murder victim Mabel Bell, a TV identified by the wife of murder victim Elias Abowath of Diamond Bar and rings identified by the daughters of Glendale murder victims Maxon and Lela Kneiding.

Solano, 53, who said he first met Ramirez in late 1984, also told a hushed courtroom that the defendant often wore a baseball cap identical to the one bearing the logo of the rock band AC/DC that was found in the garage of Rosemead murder victim Dayle Okazaki, who died in March, 1985.

"It may have been one just like it, but I saw him with it several times," said the Spanish-speaking witness, as he studied the dark-colored cap, which has previously been entered

into evidence. Ramirez, furthermore, sported a tattoo or drawing on his left arm that looked similar to the pentagrams that were found scrawled on the wall of murder victim Bell.

Solano said through an interpreter: "Solano said he last saw Ramirez three days before his arrest, when Ramirez, who had a handgun in his possession, stopped by his house."

"He was asking me for money because he wanted to leave the state," Solano said. "I told him I didn't have any money."

The gripping testimony came on the first day of the prosecution's efforts to directly link Ramirez, a 26-year-old drifter from El Paso, to evidence gathered in the massive police investigation of the killings. During the previous 23 days of the hearing, Deputy Dist. Atty. P. Philip Halpin had called to the stand 110 police investigators, doctors and eyewitnesses—including six surviving victims who dramatically identified Ramirez as their attacker.

Ramirez, who could eventually face the death penalty, is charged with 14 murders and 54 other felonies in Los Angeles County in 1984 and 1985.

During Solano's testimony, Ramirez loudly cracked his knuckles several times, but otherwise remained subdued. His lawyers, meanwhile, tried to limit the damage of the testimony by repeatedly referring to Solano as a "fence"—a person who deals in stolen goods.

"All we're seeing is a one-sided view of the case," emphasized Ramirez's co-counsel, Arturo Hernandez. "Who was keeping tabs that only Mr. Ramirez was giving [stolen property] to him?"

Solano said he first met Ramirez in the downtown Los Angeles Greyhound bus depot in November or December, 1984, as he was preparing to take a bus to Tijuana. Ramirez, he said, "asked me how come I wasn't going in a car." When informed by Solano that his car used too much gas, Ramirez offered to sell him a small car.

Solano declined the offer, but gave Ramirez his telephone number and within a week, Ramirez called "and asked me if I wanted to buy something, a TV set." Ramirez subsequently sold Solano electronics merchandise and \$2,000 in jewelry. Solano said he bought the stolen items for resale, but had not sold them.

He said he never imagined that Ramirez, who he had known by the alias of Ricardo Moreno, might have been responsible for the Night Stalker killings until a few days before the defendant's arrest. At that point, Solano said he was afraid to call police and instead stored most of the stolen goods with relatives and at work.

Solano was questioned by police the day after Ramirez's arrest and Solano cooperated with authorities.

The hearing will resume April 28.

Ramirez Ordered Her to 'Swear Upon Satan,' Rape Victim Testifies

By PAUL FELDMAN, Times Staff Writer

A 28-year-old Diamond Bar woman whose husband was allegedly shot to death by accused Night Stalker Richard Ramirez testified Tuesday that her assailant ordered her to "swear upon Satan" that she would not scream before he searched her home for valuables and raped her.

"I said, 'I swear upon God I'm not going to scream,' the woman said, speaking softly but steadily. "He said, 'Don't swear upon God, swear upon Satan.'"

Minutes later, she said, her attacker, who had been rummaging through the residence for valuables, accused her of having hidden a diamond wedding ring.

"I said, 'I swear upon God I did not,'" she said. "Again, at that time, he hit me and he said to swear upon Satan."

The woman, whose name was not revealed in court at the direction of Los Angeles Municipal Judge James F. Nelson, dramatically identified Ramirez as her attacker at the conclusion of her testimony.

Accused Identified

"Do you see the man here today that was in your house that morning?" asked Deputy Dist. Atty. P. Philip Halpin.

Turning her head slowly, the woman shuddered as she viewed Ramirez slouching in his seat at the defense table. She quickly pointed her left hand toward him and said, "Oh, yeah! Him."

The long-haired defendant, who had been covering part of his face with his left hand, grinned.

Ramirez, a 26-year-old drifter from El Paso, is accused of 14 murders, five attempted murders, 19 burglaries, six robberies, seven rapes, five acts of oral copulation, seven of sodomy, three lewd acts on children and two kidnappings in Los Angeles County in 1984 and 1985.

His preliminary hearing, held to determine if there is sufficient evidence to warrant his standing trial, is now in its seventh week.

Since Ramirez's arrest last August, several references to devil worship have cropped up in the case. At an early court session in which he pleaded not guilty to the charges, Ramirez shouted "Hail Satan!" as he was led from a

courtroom, and flashed a pentagram, inked on his palm, toward the spectators gallery.

Pentagrams also were found scrawled in the home of Monrovia murder victim Mabel Bell, 83, according to previous testimony at the hearing.

The Diamond Bar woman, the sixth surviving victim to identify Ramirez in court, said she was awakened in the middle of the night last Aug. 8 by a popping noise. The sound was apparently a gunshot that killed her husband, who was asleep beside her.

Saw Attacker's Face

The woman said she was quickly handcuffed, beaten and placed on the floor. She added that she clearly saw her attacker's face three times during the subsequent rampage, in which she was raped, sodomized and forced to orally copulate the man.

Thinking that her husband had been bound and gagged rather than shot, the woman said she sent her young son, who was not harmed, to rouse him after the attacker left. But her son said, "Mama, daddy's not waking up."

The witness had previously identified Ramirez as her attacker at a police lineup several days after his arrest. She also discovered jewelry and a television set taken in the incident at a police display at the County Jail the night of the lineup.

Hadn't Seen Published Photos

During cross-examination, the woman said she had not seen photos of Ramirez in the media before the lineup because, due to her religious beliefs, she had not been watching television or reading newspapers during her mourning period for her husband.

Rather than ordering media representatives not to publish the woman's name—as he has done in the case of several previous witnesses—Nelson had the woman write her name on a sheet of paper and hand it to his clerk. The judge told Halpin and Ramirez's attorneys not to divulge her name during testimony.

The Diamond Bar attack was the last in Los Angeles County attributed by authorities to Ramirez before his Aug. 31 arrest.

Man testifies he bought stolen goods from Ramirez

**Jewelry, other items
link Night Stalker
suspect to 4 murders**

By Nancy Hill-Holtzman
Herald staff writer

An Echo Park laborer linked Richard Ramirez to four Night Stalker murders yesterday by testifying that Ramirez sold him jewelry and other goods previously identified as stolen from the victims' homes.

In addition to tying Ramirez to the murders through the stolen property, Felipe Solano, 53, testified to a number of common themes that have arisen in a preliminary hearing to see if the evidence warrants trying the 26-year-old drifter from El Paso, Texas, on 63 felony counts.

Solano said he met Ramirez at the

downtown Greyhound bus depot in late 1984, where Ramirez helped him get a ride to Tijuana, Mexico, then began offering to sell him goods, beginning with a car and including jewelry and electronic gear.

Ramirez was typically clad in dark clothing and a baseball cap. "He had one that said CD or DC or something like that," Solano said, through an interpreter.

Solano later identified a baseball cap bearing the logo of the heavy metal rock group AC/DC, recovered from the garage of the Rosemead condominium where Dayle Okazaki was murdered, as similar to one he had frequently seen on Ramirez.

One day, Ramirez, a reputed devil worshiper, displayed an inverted pentagram drawn on his forearm, Solano said. The drawing on Ramirez's arm matched a pentagram drawn at one of the crime scenes, the man testified, after being shown a photo by Deputy District Attorney P. Philip Halpin.

A surviving victim testified Tuesday

that Ramirez was the attacker who insisted she "swear upon Satan." Ramirez also has said "Hail Satan" in court. Sheriff's Deputy Carlos Avila testified yesterday that an informant told him Ramirez was selling stolen property to Solano. The informant accompanied Ramirez on a selling trip to Solano's house, Avila said.

After watching the house for several days, police moved in the day after Ramirez was captured. Avila testified that Solano, a factory worker, led him to suitcases full of jewelry, electronic equipment and cameras he had hidden at a factory where his nephew was foreman. More jewelry was found at the West Covina home of Solano's son.

"I don't think I could have kept Mr. Solano from bringing items to me because of his feelings about who he had involved himself with," Avila said. Solano discovered the link after seeing Ramirez's picture on television.

Two days later, Solano called saying he

had forgotten some items, two cameras and a wedding and engagement ring set. The daughters of a murdered Glendale couple, Max and Lela Knelding, have already identified the rings as belonging to their mother.

A television set Solano turned in two weeks later was identified by a Diamond Bar woman who testified earlier this week to being beaten and raped, allegedly by Ramirez, who is also charged with murdering the woman's husband. The grandson of murder victim Mabel Bell identified as hers a cassette tape recorder and radio retrieved from Solano in mid-September.

All of the items were purchased from the man he knew as Ricardo Moreno, but later learned was Richard Ramirez, Solano testified, under a grant of immunity to preclude his being charged with receiving stolen property. The hearing was continued until April 28 to allow defense experts to study scientific evidence that will wrap up the prosecution's case against Ramirez.

LA HERALD 4/17/86

The killer had a lifestyle — and a deathstyle

By Nancy Hill-Holtzman
Herald Staff Writer

THE STALKER HEARING

He stole into their homes in the dead of night and ravaged their bodies and ruined their lives.

They came to court the next morning, walking wounded, to attest to their nights of terror with the Night Stalker.

Miraculously, their lives were spared, but the light in their eyes had died. One by one, they testified they would never forget the man who, as one weeping victim said, "did everything awful to me."

All four rape victims said the man they would never forget is Richard Ramirez, a 28-year-old drifter from El Paso, who denies he committed the 68 felonies, including 14 murders, with which he is charged.

Ramirez was also identified in court by two women he allegedly attempted to murder. A fifth alleged rape victim rendered speechless by a stroke did not take the stand, nor did a 79-year-old invalid who has been mute since she was brutally beaten and left for dead.

But the four women who could talk spoke volumes, their anguished accounts standing out among the 110 witnesses who have appeared at a preliminary hearing to decide whether Ramirez should stand trial on the charges. The hearing resumes next Monday before Municipal Court Judge James Nelson.

And while the Night Stalker was notable for the diversity of his killing style, the women who escaped death had

in many regards a similar tale to tell. They were startled awake by a lanky figure dressed in black, the glint of a gun in his gloved hands. His first words were a variation of "Don't scream, bitch, or I'll kill you," as he handcuffed them or bound their hands behind their backs with cords ripped from nearby appliances.

"There was a tall, thin man dressed in black who came quickly to the head of the bed," a 63-year-old Monterey Park nurse said. "He put a gloved hand over my mouth and a gun to my head. He said, 'If you make a sound, I'll kill you.'"

He dragged them from room to room in a frenetic rampage through their belongings, stopping to yell, "where is it?" or, "don't look at me, bitch," threatening death if they balked.

"He just called me 'bitch' every word," testified a 29-year-old Sun Valley woman, whose husband was murdered. "Everywhere he go, he took me," the Thailand-born mother of two said. "He beat me up and put a gun to my head."

If there was a man in the house, he was already dead — from a small-caliber bullet to the head fired at close range as he slept. In the three instances in which a

couple was killed, the man was shot first, while the woman was brutally beaten, slashed and mutilated.

The surviving women got more than a taste of that brutality, for the Night Stalker stayed around for hours.

Interspersed with his demands for valuables were his demands for a variety of sex acts, when he was able to perform sexually.

"Are you enjoying this?" he allegedly asked one victim, who described her attacker as a "very good looking, painfully thin, 6-foot-1-inch man with dark curly hair who 'smelled very leathery.'"

He became enraged and beat them when he could not find enough money or jewelry.

"Where's the wedding ring?" he demanded, striking a Pakistani-born Diamond Bar woman, who had to be almost carried to the witness stand to testify last week. "You bitch, tell me where it is. Don't lie to me," the attacker said.

His frenzy apparently left him hungry. Sometimes, he stopped by the kitchen for a snack — honeydew melon, apple juice, a banana — before grabbing a pillowcase from a blood-soaked bed to carry his loot off into the dawn.

Prosecutor P. Philip Halpin is seeking ultimately to prove the guilt of Ramirez through the stolen goods police recovered, and a variety of scientific evidence including the appearance at many crime scenes of an Avia athletic shoe print, although no such shoes were recovered from the defendant.

But the women's strong courtroom

identification is crucial in convicting the man allegedly responsible for the attacks that reached their crescendo last summer.

"I see him in my house, I see him in a picture, I see him on television — just everywhere," said one victim.

Why did the Night Stalker gouge out Maxine Zazara's eyes as he killed her, but leave alive women whose testimony can help convict him and perhaps send him to the gas chamber?

Why did 32-year-old Patti Higgins have her throat slashed and suffer 47 stab wounds in a fatal attack, while the 28-year-old Pakistani-born Diamond Bar woman lived?

Why was the Monterey Park nurse spared when on the same night Joyce Nelson, 60, also of Monterey Park, was strangled and beaten to death, her attacker's shoeprint on the side of her smashed-up face?

No one can say why some lived and some died. All that is known is what the surviving women said they did — cooperate and reassure their attacker.

By contrast, Virginia Petersen, 27, of Northridge, who awoke screaming at the hollow-cheeked man to "get out of here" was shot instantly in the face. She survived and so did her husband Christopher, 38, who jumped out of bed after being shot and pursued the intruder.

If Petersen's wounds had proved fatal, she would have been the only woman with a child in the house to die.

Stalker/A-10

Stalker

Continued from page A-3

Of the five sexual assault victims who survived (one did not testify), three of them had children asleep in the house. While the Night Stalker is charged with molesting children, he never killed a woman who had children asleep in the house.

But the attacker included the children prominently in his death threats. "Oh, God I am not going to scream," promised the Diamond Bar mother when the Night Stalker threatened to kill both her sons if she did not keep quiet. When the attacker demanded she swear upon Satan instead, the woman quickly complied.

Then she promised to help him gather her jewelry and other valuables. "I'm going to show you," she said. "I'm going to give you every-

thing I've got." When her 3-year-old son awoke, the frail woman "begged" the man to spare him.

The Sun Valley mother of two, who was raped on the floor of the bedroom where her husband lay dead, was also compliant. "I give you anything. Just don't kill me (or my children)," she said.

Ramirez is charged with sodomizing the woman's 8-year-old son, while the mother lay helpless in another room listening to her child's screams.

Two of the victims were cognizant of the need to keep from further angering the intruder. "I was afraid to make him angry," said the nurse who lived alone, explaining her eagerness to turn over her jewelry and money to the man she described as "tense (but) in control of himself and his entire situation."

A 41-year-old Burbank woman, whose son was placed in a hall closet while she was raped, calmly told the man she knew he was going to get angry because she

didn't have much money or jewelry.

After being raped and sodomized at gunpoint, she was still able to say something empathetic to her attacker. "You must have had a very unhappy life to have done this to me," she told him.

The assailant offered the blonde woman a robe, laughingly saying: "I guess it wouldn't be too good for your son to see you like this." Two other women were also covered by the attacker before he left.

Asked by defense attorney Daniel Hernandez why she had engaged her attacker in a 20-minute conversation, the woman said she thought if she could make the attacker care enough about the family, he might spare their lives.

It worked. Before leaving, the Night Stalker complied with the woman's request to untie her hands, which were hurting. He also left the handcuff key on the mantle, where it could be easily retrieved.

- Student joins ambassador program. See Page B-1
- Sheriffs, dogs team up to sniff out danger. See Page A-4

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Stalker's City crime decreases as citizens secure homes victim list increases

By BRANDON BAILEY
Special Correspondent

Two Los Angeles County residents murdered earlier this year have been added to the list of victims slain by the Night Stalker, as authorities released more information and expanded their manhunt for the serial killer.

Law enforcement officials declined Thursday to identify the two people killed and provided little information about their deaths.

Orange County investigators, meanwhile, announced the discovery of unidentified fingerprints in an orange Toyota that has been linked to last Sunday's attack on a couple in Mission Viejo.

The fingerprint discovery was termed "significant" by a source close to the investigation, but further details were unavailable.

As the Night Stalker investigation continued, some information about the killer and his habits has been released:

By BRAD HAUGAARD
Staff Writer

Burglaries in Arcadia have plummeted following publicity about the serial killer who has preyed upon sleeping victims throughout the Southland, according to Arcadia's Acting Police Chief Neal Johnson.

At a Wednesday night citizens' briefing at Foothills Junior High School, the third such meeting in the city, Johnson said there were 23 burglaries in Arcadia during June, 36 in July, but so far this

month, the number has fallen to nine. "You people are locking down, making it better," Johnson said.

Officer Don Alcorn said that as a police officer he wishes he could take credit for the drop, but "you guys kept them out," he said, indicating the audience of about 150. "You're finally listening."

He said he hopes the newly developed security consciousness remains after the killer is caught.

In reply to questions about the kill-

ings, Johnson said:

— There is some evidence that is similar in the case of the 6-year-old Arcadia girl who was kidnapped on June 27, raped and released in Los Angeles, and the murder cases. He said police are not ruling out that they may be related, and are checking further.

— Police can't substantiate the surmise that the killer has selected his victims by the yellow color of their houses.

— The Guardian Angels are offering to stay by or in people's homes for their

protection. Johnson said the decision on whether to use that service is up to individuals. As an alternative, he suggested that neighbors could sleep at one another's homes if it will make them feel more secure.

Lt. Richard Honaker added that by revealing that the same gun has been used in many of the crimes, San Francisco Mayor Diane Feinstein "took us back about six months."

There are 800 to 1,000 "sightings" of the suspect each day, he said.



Film star's home reflects culture, work

By BRAD HAUGAARD
Staff Writer

If you watch Ninja movies, you know Sho Kosugi. If you live on Longden Avenue in Arcadia, you know his house.

Kosugi has played in several movies — Enter the Ninja, Revenge of the Ninja, Nine Deaths of the Ninja, Pray For Death (soon to be released), Master Class, and The Bad News Bears in Japan.

A Ninja, he said, is like a Sixth Century Japanese secret agent sometimes employed for

Council to consider opposing trash plant

By BRAD HAUGAARD
Staff Writer

A resolution opposing the proposed Irwindale trash-burning plant has been prepared for consideration by the Arcadia City Council at its Tuesday meeting.

The resolution says that "there are substantial potential negative impacts involving this plant with regard to air quality and related health concerns which could affect the entire San Gabriel Valley including the City of Arcadia."

In addition, it says "there are numerous substantial issues and questions regarding such a

Court rulings banning the very specific wording now in the city code regarding "family," the commission reluctantly recommended a broad definition that could open the door to a wide-variety of non-traditional living arrangements in single family neighborhoods.

If passed by the council, the amendment concerning the use of guest homes would somewhat restrict the use of the adjacent buildings by limiting occupancy of the guest home to 30 days a year by guests.

During the Redevelopment Agency portion of the meeting, agency members will consider the design of the Inn at Santa

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The fingerprint discovery was termed "significant" by a source close to the investigation, but further details were unavailable.

As the Night Stalker investigation continued, some information about the killer and his habits has been released:

— The killer, believed to be Anglo or light-skinned Hispanic, says very little to his victims and apparently has no discernible accent, police said.

— After entering a home through an unsecured door or window, the killer "immediately shoots any adult males in the residence and then attacks the female occupants," according to a police bulletin.

— While investigators believe the killer has used a variety of stolen cars to travel around the state, police said he may favor small, imported station wagons. He is believed to use a .22-caliber revolver or .25-caliber automatic pistol.

Some of the information is included in a circular that will be sent to gas stations and retail outlets around the state. The circular also includes composite sketches and a description of the man believed responsible for 16 killings and numerous other assaults.

The police bulletin says the Night Stalker is responsible for 17 homicides. That figure includes the attack on a Mission Viejo man, 29-year-old William Carns, who was shot in the head but is still clinging to life in the intensive care unit of Mission Community Hospital, said Los Angeles Police Cmdr. William Booth.

Los Angeles Sheriff Sherman Block last week released a list of 14 killings linked to the Night Stalker. Booth and other officials declined to give any information about the two killings now added to the list.

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Staff Writer

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Film star's home reflects culture, work

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A Ninja, he said, is like a Sixth Century Japanese secret agent, sometimes employed for good, sometimes for bad, proficient at martial arts, weapons, mental discipline and medicine.

Sho Kosugi poses in a publicity shot for his role in the 1983 movie "Ninja III — The Domination."

Please see HOME Page A-2



Ninja actor Sho Kosugi lives in a home that reflects his Oriental heritage.

Photo by Tom La Barbera

Council to c opposing tra

By BRAD HAUGAARD
Staff Writer

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The resolution says that "there are substantial potential negative impacts involving this plant with regard to air quality and related health concerns which could affect the entire San Gabriel Valley including the City of Arcadia."

In addition, it says "there are numerous substantial issues and questions regarding such a plant."

Also on the agenda for the evening will be the consideration of text amendments to the city code concerning the definition of zoning purposes of "family," and of the proper use of guest houses adjacent to regular homes.

The Planning Commission has recommended the new wording of both proposed text amendments to the council. Because of U.S. and California Supreme

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Public heari for waste pla

By KATHY BRAIDHILL
Staff Writer

The public will be invited to speak at two relatively brief breaks in a seven-hour technical workshop with consultants from Pacific Waste Management Corp and California Energy Commission staff on Thursday, Sept. 5, at Irwindale City Hall, 5050 N. Irwindale Ave.

The purpose of the meeting, which starts at 3 p.m., is to discuss specific air emissions technology of the Irwindale waste-to-energy plant, according to Joyce Mason, assistant project manager for the commission on the Irwindale project.

The plant is estimated to release six tons of pollutants and burn 3,100 tons of garbage daily to drive generators that will produce 80 megawatts of electricity.

The estimated pollutants have alarmed local residents, business owners and politicians.

Those pollution estimates and how Pacific Waste arrived at those estimates will be one of the topics of discussion at the workshop, Ms. Mason said.

The estimates come from comparing emissions from other waste-to-energy plants with the air quality, she said.

The estimates are then fed into a computer program containing current air pollution readings from around the San Gabriel Valley and what results

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School starts Thursday; class time upped

This Thursday, approximately 7,500 Arcadia students will begin the 1985-86 school year. Many will find they are spending a little more time in class than they did last year.

Instructional time at the elementary level will be increased by nine minutes again this year as part two of three nine-minute increases to raise class time by 27 minutes, as required by SB813.

Last year the complete shortfall for kindergarten and high school was made up. Class time in kindergarten was increased 10 minutes and five minutes more instructional time was added at the

p.m. Afternoon kindergarten at Camino Grove goes from 11:50 a.m. until 3:10 p.m.

Junior high classes run from 8:15 a.m. until 3 p.m. and the high school hours are 8 a.m. until 2:45 p.m.

For students who need transportation to and from school, bus passes are now available.

Various types of passes are available to accommodate the regular, occasional, round trip, or one-way user.

Cost is \$56 per quarter for a round-trip bus

Please see STALKER, Page A-2

INSIDE

Today's best bet

Arthur Pollock of Arcadia has lived nine decades and he relates his life experiences in a book, "90 and Counting." Pollock said he "told it like it is" in his book, expounding on 25 cent

The walls beside the bridge are covered with wallpaper showing trees and plants.

4:15 to 4:45 p.m. Response from Pacific Waste to requests from commission staff about transmis-

0:45 to 7:15 p.m. Discussion of Facility E-beam technology, which means the use of electron beams to control emission. 9:15 to 10 p.m. Public comment.

Stalker case intensifies

Continued from Page A-1

The two cases occurred in Los Angeles County, outside the city of Los Angeles, police sources said. They were added after police decided the Night Stalker has been operating since February, said Booth.

Investigators previously believed the first Night Stalker killing was the March 17 shooting death of a 35-year-old woman, Dayle Okazaki, in her Rosemead condominium.

Ten of the Night Stalker's victims were killed in the San Gabriel Valley. Two were Arcadia women, one a Monrovia woman. Two more were slain in Glendale. One was killed in the Los Angeles community of Sun Valley and another was shot to death in San Francisco.

In addition, police suspect the killer is responsible for shootings, kidnappings, rapes and sexual assaults on children in the San Gabriel and San Fernando valleys.

The orange Toyota station wagon linked to Sunday's attack in the Orange County community of Mission Viejo was reported stolen Saturday and then was found this week in Los Angeles.

Orange County sheriff's investigators, meanwhile, declined to say whether they found any evidence in the car, other than the fingerprints. The prints don't belong to the car's current owner, who bought the car a few weeks ago, but investigators hadn't yet checked other recent owners, said Larry Ragle, director of forensic science at the Orange County Sheriff-Coroner's office.

"We've started the process of going through criminal records"

and comparing fingerprints, Ragle said.

Police also reported a woman was slain in the city of Orange Thursday morning, but investigators with the Los Angeles Sheriff's Department task force concluded the killing was not the work of the Night Stalker.



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Produced for the Civic Light Opera by:
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1985-86 Season Schedule

SERIES	MY FAIR LADY		OKLAHOMA!		
#	DAY/DATE	TIME	DAY/DATE	TIME	DAY/DATE
1	FRI./OCT. 18 '85	8:15	FRI./JAN. 17 '86	8:15	FRI./MAY
2+	SAT./OCT. 19 '85 Mat. 2:15		SAT./JAN. 18 '86 Mat. 2:15		SAT./MAY
3	SAT./OCT. 19 '85	8:15	SAT./JAN. 18 '86	8:15	SAT./MAY
4	SUN./OCT. 20 '85	7:15	SUN./JAN. 19 '86	7:15	SUN./MAY
5	FRI./OCT. 25 '85	8:15	FRI./JAN. 24 '86	8:15	FRI./MAY

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Los Angeles Herald Examiner

LOS ANGELES HERALD

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EXAMINER

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L.A. Night Stalker's deadly trail

U.S. officials hold secret meeting with S. Africans

L.A.'S MORNING BRIEFING

Reagan may seek same budget cuts

WASHINGTON — President Reagan wants to propose to Congress next year many of the deep domestic budget cuts rejected this year, the Washington Post reported today.

The Post said Reagan made the call for the same cuts in a Cabinet meeting yesterday called to discuss plans for the 1987 budget to be submitted in January.

By Susan F. Rasky
New York Times News Service

WASHINGTON — Senior American and South African officials met yesterday at the U.S. Embassy in Vienna, Austria, at Pretoria's request to discuss the situation in South Africa, the White House and the State Department said.

The meeting, the first high-level contact between the two governments since March, included Robert C. McFarlane, the White House national security adviser; Roelof F. Botha, the South African foreign minister; Chester A. Crocker, the assistant secretary of state for African affairs; and Herman W. Nickel, the U.S. ambassador to South Africa.

Officials said the South African government had indicated that it

Returned to sender



New serial killer linked to 7 murders, 14 attacks

By Mark S. Warnick
Herald staff writer

A night-prowling killer who enters darkened homes through unlocked doors or windows is suspected of at least 14 recent attacks in Los Angeles County — including seven murders — and might be responsible for as many as 30 such incidents now under investigation, authorities say.

The latest attack, in Diamond Bar early yesterday, left a Pakistani emigre dead and his wife injured.

The string of approximately 30 cases began in February and includes attacks across the county, primarily in the San Gabriel and San Fernando valleys. It involves at least a dozen murders stretching from Northridge, 27 miles northwest of downtown Los Angeles, to Diamond Bar, about 30 miles east of downtown.

"We're talking about something that covers a lot of territory," said sheriff's Capt. William R. Hinkle.

The common denominator in all of the cases under investigation is the method of entry — through an

HOW TO PROTECT YOURSELF, HOME

Sheriff's department officials yesterday said you can help prevent intruders by:

■ Locking all doors and windows at night.

■ Purchasing additional bolt-type locks and u-clamp locks for sliding glass doors.

■ Contacting your local sheriff's department substation and requesting a security check of your house.

"People have to take it upon themselves to undertake some common-sense security measures: Lock doors and windows and install adequate outside lighting," said Los Angeles County Sheriff Sherman Block.

Terrigno hands over

talker's deadly trail

eturned to sender



Michael Haering/Herald, photographer

ant Weston J. Hill, who was given a one-way plane ticket to Florida arch by Santa Monica police after he was arrested repeatedly for nt exposure, talks to reporters upon his return to Los Angeles. Hill rested on similar charges in Miami, and a Florida radio station paid / back. His lawyer said Hill was taking medication for his mental ns and Hill said Santa Monicans have no reason to fear him/A-3.

ite House admits sides

New serial killer linked to 7 murders, 14 attacks

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"We're talking about something that covers a lot of territory," said sheriff's Capt. William R. Hinkle.

The common denominator in all of the cases under investigation is the method of entry — through an unlocked or open window, or a sliding glass door. In none of the attacks has the suspect forced entry.

In addition, all of the crimes occurred in houses that had poor, if any, outside lighting.

Responding to the wave of attacks, Sheriff Sherman Block yesterday called on local residents to undertake the "simple, precautionary safety measures" of installing adequate outside lighting and locking doors and windows.

In addition to the sheriff's department, five police departments — Los Angeles, Glendale, Monrovia, Arcadia and Monterey Park — are cooperating in the investigation of the attacks.

Authorities so far have linked

Murders/A-12, Col. 1

Tilted oav lover kills

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Terrigno hands over mayor's job

*Will kiss, handshake
beal W. Hollywood?*

By John Fleck
Herald staff writer

With a kiss and a handshake, the divisions that split the West Hollywood political community were swept aside last night as Valerie Terrigno handed over the mayoralty of the fledgling city to John Heilman.

Terrigno transferred the title after eight months in office, ending a move by her supporters to have her retain the largely ceremonial position.

When Terrigno handed the gavel to Heilman, a wave of applause came from the several hundred people attending the coun-

- All-Stars leave for world series play. See Page C-1
- Social Security marks 50th birthday. See Page A-5

Arcadia Tribune

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VOL. 55, NO. 65

Rape: it still remains the untold crime

Many won't report assaults because they know attackers

By LISA LOWERY
Staff Writer

More times than not one of the most dehumanizing violent crimes a person can survive goes unreported to authorities.

Rape usually is kept secret also from family and friends, leaving only those who have been raped to know the personal trauma and the reasons why so many women do not report rapes.

Why has rape become the



untold crime?

Rape by a stranger is really the exception, said Rochelle Coffey, assistant director of the Pasadena YWCA Rape Hotline.

Most perpetrators are known

to the woman, she said, and that is the primary reason why women refrain from reporting rapes to the police.

On the average, from half to three quarters of the 40 to 45 rape cases the hotline handles per month go unreported to authorities.

About half of the acquaintance-rape and adult-incest cases reported to the hotline take place in the woman's own home, and these crimes are even less

First in a series

likely to end up in court, according to hotline personnel.

Much of the reason for not reporting rapes is the victim's frequent lack of faith in the criminal justice system, Ms. Coffey explained — and sometimes with good reason.

If the woman reports the

crime, "many times the district attorney won't file charges on a case because of lack of evidence as with many other types of crimes," Ms. Coffey said.

One of the primary reasons women do not report rape is because they fear they will be victimized by the system: the

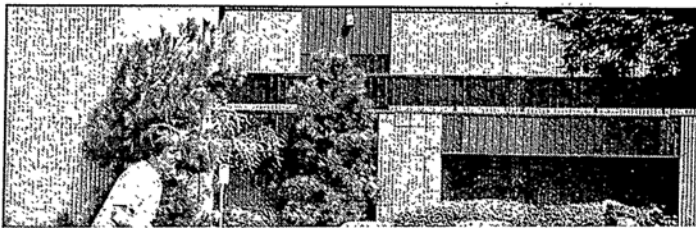
same probing questions asked repeatedly or the case being drawn out over a long period of time, Ms. Coffey said.

Training programs designed to educate officers on how to handle such sex crime victims have been instigated, and that kind of complaint has declined considerably, she added.

That kind of harassment often

Please see EXPERTS',
Page A-2

**Reward now
at \$15,000
for killer**



Death of Mitchell won't affect contract

By BRAD HAUGAARD
Staff Writer

The death of former Arcadia Police Chief Charles Mitchell does not affect the \$117,864 consulting contract between him and the city, according to City

**For our opinion
concerning the city's
contract with former
Police Chief Charles**

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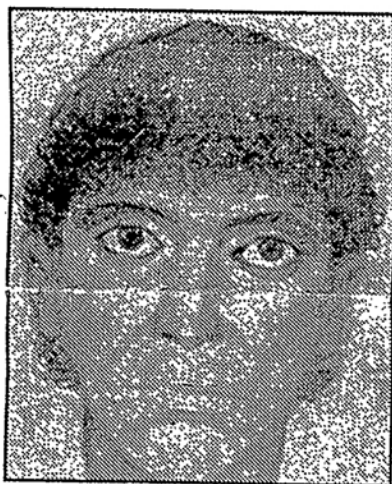
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Reward now at \$15,000 for killer



MURDER SUSPECT

... composite drawing

By LAURA NICHOLSON
Special Correspondent

The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors Tuesday offered a \$10,000 reward for information that leads to the arrest and conviction of the person responsible for a series of murders and attacks in the San Gabriel and San Fernando valleys.

The reward brings to \$15,000 the amount of money being offered for information leading to the killer.

Last month the Arcadia City Council approved a \$5,000 reward.

The Board of Supervisors voted unanimously to offer the reward "for information leading to the identification, apprehension and conviction of the person or persons responsible for these so-called night stalker/walk-in burglar crimes."

The person has been directly connected to six murders in the San Gabriel and San Fernando valleys and may be involved

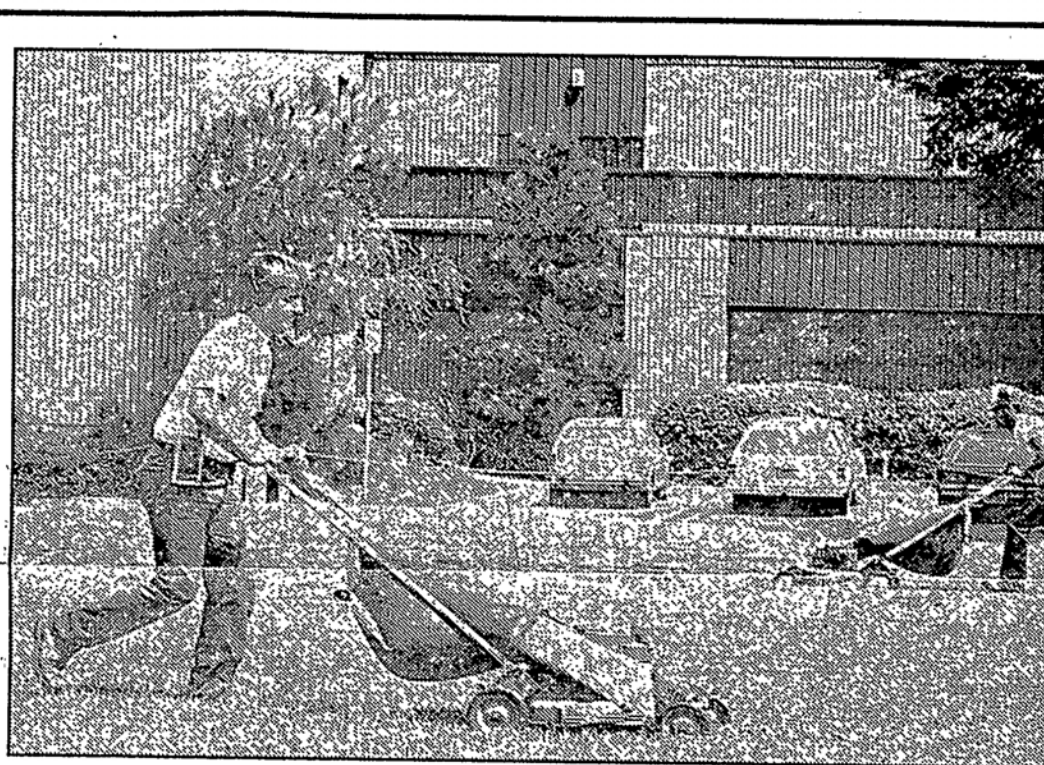


Photo by Barrett

Coming and going — Philip Savage, left, and Felix Farfan busily mow the lawn on site is currently waiting for a red ment project to get under way.

Plan will keep swap meet go

By KATHY BRAIDHILL
Staff Writer

Swap meet customers of the Edwards Drive-In Theater must park in a parking lot in order to attend the event, under a plan devised Monday by the county Regional Planning Commission to alleviate complaints from neighbors about the weekend event.

In a unanimous vote before 350 residents and vendors, the commission suspended revocation of the swap meet permit and gave Edwards Cinemas, which operates the drive-in at 4469 Live Oak Ave., 90 days to secure enough parking to handle vendors and sellers.

Within those 90 days, the theater company is to refuse entry to the swap meet to people unless they have a free ticket, available only to those who park in one of Edwards' parking lots.

Commissioner Delta Murphy, an appointee of Supervisor Pete Schabarum in the First District, where the drive-in is located, suggested the idea.

"It appears to be a very workable plan," said James Edwards, president of Edwards' Cinemas. "I think it will solve the parking problem."

Swap meet vendors, who picketed the supervisors' meeting on Temple Street in Los Angeles before the commission meeting,

also favored the plan.

"We are promoting can — to park in the vendor Peggy Pierce."

The 813 vendors, say the closure of the will put hundreds of depend on the wheel out of a job, which i were picketing.

The majority of attending the Monday meeting in three buses by Edwards. At an evening, many residents spoke against conti

Please :

Please see POLICE,
Page A-2

Major crime drops 8.3% local

Major crime in foothill area cities dropped an average of 8.3 percent last year, according to

Italy honors Arcadian John Lucarelli

Arcadia businessman John Lucarelli recently was awarded the Order of Merit of the Italian Republic, an honor parallel with British knighthood.

The honor came as a surprise to Lucarelli, who has operated his imported ceramic tile and marble company on east Huntington Drive since 1981. He has lived in this country since 1964 and now lives in the Pasadena area with his wife, Stase, and their three children.

This honor was awarded by the Italian government consulate general's office in Los Angeles largely due to his volunteer work within the Italian

community, but other groups and U.S. government officials have honored Lucarelli for various acts of volunteerism.

He has worked with and chaired numerous committees and groups assisting disaster victims, cancer research, the elderly and children.

One of the tasks for which Lucarelli has continued to volunteer his time is heading up the organization of the Italian section of the Columbus Day Parade in Los Angeles. For this, he was honored by the County of Los Angeles, and Mayor Tom Bradley presented the award.

As an added plus for Lucarelli, he met the Dogers' Tommy Lasorda at the awards presentation. Lasorda is also a recipient of the Italian Order of Merit.

Lucarelli beamed with pride when he spoke about meeting the Los Angeles baseball club's manager. And he quickly ran through the list of his accomplishments on volunteer committees.

When asked what the honor meant to him, he said, "I just try to help with volunteer work... I'm very proud to have it. I just wish my dad were alive to see it."

Swap meet will continue operating

Continued from Page A-1

swap meet.

The commission this week focused on problems about traffic and parking and did not hear testimony from vendors about the effect of closing the swap meet.

A representative of the residents, however, said the plan was only a patchwork approach.

"I don't think we have a solution yet," said Robert Elwood,

who added that residents will be monitoring parking, crowds, noise and pedestrian traffic and will report to county planning staff if there are any problems.

"Mr. Edwards can't guarantee that they won't be handing out tickets to everyone," Elwood added.

Because the drive-in earlier had no parking lots, buyers and sellers doing business at the weekend swap meet parked on surrounding residential streets.

As the swap meet grew, traffic and lack of parking upset neighbors who complained about noise and crowds to the county Board of Supervisors.

Following a letter and petition drive, the board ordered a revocation hearing before the commission.

Edwards bought a 9.3-acre lot in Irwindale, which is across the street from the drive-in, but city officials there say the lot must be developed with an industrial or manufacturing use.

Police continue search for attacker

Continued from Page A-1

with as many as 30 different assaults and murders that a 50-member task force is studying.

"The fear is everywhere... The fear is in every city," said Supervisor Kenneth Hahn, who seconded the reward motion by Supervisor Pete Schabarum.

Schabarum represents the East San Gabriel Valley district where several of the assaults occurred.

"This is a county-wide problem," Schabarum said. The board has offered rewards in connection with other sensational crimes, including the notori-

ous Hillside Strangler killings.

Meanwhile, Monrovia police officers cordoned off a house in the 400 block of West Colorado Boulevard Tuesday where a 20-year-old woman reported she was assaulted by a man similar to the killer depicted in police drawings.

The woman told police a man knocked at her door about 2 a.m., entered with a pair of scissors, hacked off a piece of her hair and struck her, said Lt. Robert Page of the Monrovia Police Department.

Investigators cordoned off the home to collect any available

evidence but did not believe the incident was connected to other local attacks, Page said.

The killer apparently last struck Aug. 8 when a 35-year-old man was shot and killed in his Diamond Bar home and his wife was sexually assaulted.

That murder has been connected by police to two murders in Arcadia, one in Rosemead, one in Monrovia and one in Sun Valley.

The assailant was referred to as an "intruder" or "walk-in burglar" because of his habit of picking neighborhoods then looking for easy access through open doors or windows.

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By MEG SULLIVAN
For the Star-News

Unique patrols of self-styled law enforcers
taking to quiet streets of San Gabriel Valley

GUARDIAN ANGELS: KEEPING THE LOOKOUT

The hour is approaching midnight as a well-kept lane in residential Arcadia goes to sleep, one window at a time.

A string of street lights illuminate tidy lawns, manicured hedges and an occasional parked car. Except for the whirr of a lone sprinkler and the drone of traffic on nearby Santa Anita Avenue, all is quiet.

Just one irregularity mars the picture of suburban perfection. A forgotten light flickers inside one of the parked cars.

Suddenly, a band of youths wearing red berets turns the corner, looking about as indigenous as a UFO. Noting the light, two of them dash to inform the occupants of the nearest house, while the others stand in rigid attention.

A graying gentleman chooses precisely this moment to walk his dog. Leaving a ranch-style bungalow, he comes face to face with the crowd and stands blinking in disbelief.

The red beret leader attempts several times to explain what he and his nine comrades are doing on the quiet street, but the elderly man doesn't appear to understand.

The residents of the house, meanwhile, fail to answer their door — restrained either by sleep or reports of a killer on the loose.

Such is a typical night out with the Guardian Angels in the San Gabriel Valley — hardly the rip-roaring times graphically chronicled at the organization's beginnings in 1979.

In those days, cold subway stations and vandalized commuter trains



served as backdrops for the heroic exploits of the fledgling band first known as the Magnificent 13 and led by the now legendary Curtis Sliwa from the Bronx.

As the membership grew, the subways of New York gave way to the streets of Boston, Philadelphia, Cleveland, Miami and, in the fall of 1981, Los Angeles. Not long afterward, the red berets arrived in Pasadena as part of the retinue of Rose Parade regulars.

Today, according to local Guardian Angels, Sliwa oversees a membership of 5,000 with 58 chapters in North America and another in Guam. In Southern California, the organization has chapters in Santa Ana, Long Beach, Hollywood and Venice and conducts patrols along the border between California and Mexico, according to Danny Lewis, the 27-year-old director of the West Side Chapter.

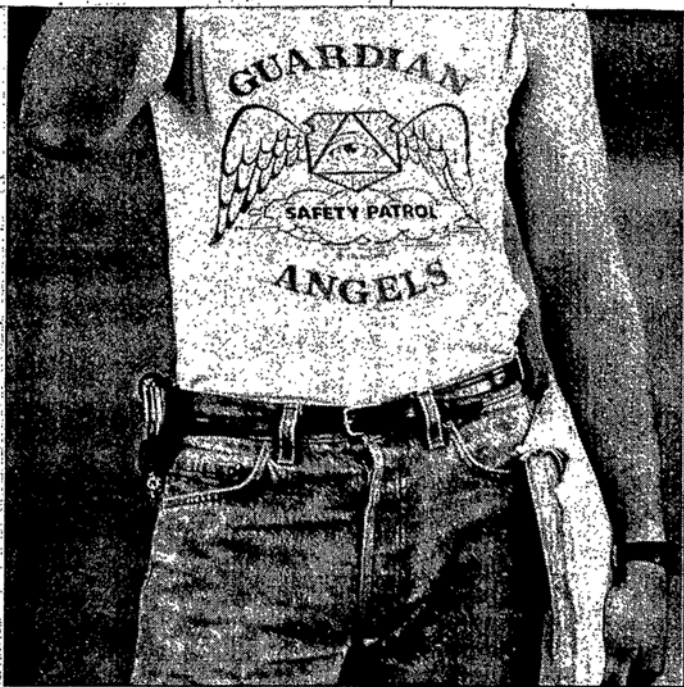
Now the Guardian Angels hope to expand to Sierra Madre, Monrovia and Arcadia. They say that anonymous calls from citizens in these communities summoned them in mid-July, and a largely favorable response has encouraged them to start a new chapter here.

Bill Schweitzer, the 21-year-old director of the Central Los Angeles chapter, and Lewis have begun training 18 local recruits at Arcadia County Park.

At a session last week, newcomers heaved their way through a strenuous routine of calisthenics, including push-ups and sit-ups. Within 15 minutes, they were learning self-defense, tackling and handcuffing techniques. In another hour, they were combing the park in a mock search.

The recruits ranged in age from 16 to 51 years of age, included both sexes, and spanned a gamut of occupations and interests. Though separated by divergent backgrounds and mixed motives, they shared a common belief.

"Traditionally Sierra Madre has been a safe place," said Shelby Pope, a horse trainer in her late 30s, "but things have changed." A Sierra Madre teenager was recently bludgeoned in a string of attacks and



murders in the West San Gabriel Valley.

A 25-year-old Arcadian, who said he had always wanted to be a policeman, talked about how his grandmother and sister recently had been assaulted in other Southern California cities.

"I've noticed the same element start to move into Arcadia and I don't want that for my wife."

A 51-year-old mother and part-time secretary planned to donate administrative assistance to the chapter.

Although Sierra Madre was the

best represented with eight recruits, it is not exactly a hotbed of enthusiasm for the volunteer patrol.

"Maybe they are needed on New York subways but not here," said a longtime resident, who asked not to be identified. She complained that their presence alone creates an element of fear on the streets, which have been ranked among the safest in the country.

"Sierra Madre doesn't like strangers," confirmed Sierra Madre Police Chief Irwin "Bill" Betts. He said that during a recent week, 25 percent of

reports of strangers were eventually traced to Guardian Angel activities.

Former mayor and city councilwoman Elaine Rudolph led a small group to complain at a city council meeting. Her ire was piqued when a pair of Guardian Angels mistook a raccoon for a prowler and followed it into the bushes of her home.

"They don't know the community," she fumes.

In turn, another woman who asked not to be identified said, "We don't know much about them. They assure us they're screened but it's impossible

to thoroughly screen."

No strangers to criticism, the Guardian Angels take the complaints in stride, saying that they've received a warmer welcome here than on the West Side.

"The idea is not for West Los Angeles to take over and patrol," said Lewis. "It's to inspire locals to take over patrol of their own communities."

While conceding that they do not check the three references required



Photos by Tom La Barbera / Star-News

Danny Lewis (left), leader of Guardian Angels' local chapter, speaks to recruits. Above (from top), Dave Cameli (left) of Sierra Madre and Eric Jones of Pasadena sign up as Scott Walker answers questions; Bill Schweitzer demonstrates a lock hold to Stephen Duhan; and (from left) Lyle Polling, Schweitzer and Lewis explain their purpose to new volunteers in Arcadia.

I turned to salt statues.

She resumed her way to the water, searching the shoreline for rocks. At one point, my husband cleared his throat and I thought he was going to say something, but he didn't.

Finally, she entered the water and swam out to a rock about 50 feet away and stretched out to catch some rays.

My husband turned to me and said, "Did

asked. "She looks like she has a nice personality."

"She has the intelligence of a food processor."

"You don't know that either," he snapped.

"When you leave an ankle bracelet on in salt water, you're not too bright."

"Well, she obviously comes from a good family. Possibly military."

I said, jamming my needlepoint in the bag.

"Is this an ultimatum?"

"You bet your sweet bird it is. I hope you and Dr. Ruth out there will be very happy."

At that point a male nude bather wearing only a wedding ring jumped into the water and joined our nymph friend on the rock.

My husband said, "Now he's slime."

It's funny. He struck me as someone who would be very nice to his mother.

can't because he is doing his homework (35.)

I have guessed never this often. I go to their roommate says like her boyfriend he comes here. unfair to me. M insists it's her guests whenever

Recently I wish that her mother for a month's stay tolerate because nitely a beginning; with the there's no end.

She may want him, but I don't communicate with

She puts off everything — and then regrets it

DEAR VIRGINIA: The problem is me. No one else to blame. I have a heart of a husband, a cute apartment and nice, sweet parents on both sides. I've been married two years and I am failing.

My husband is 23 and I'm 19, and he has a good job that supports us both. He doesn't want me to work outside, but I baby-sit some to help with extras.

What's wrong is that I can't make up my mind about things, and I can't get anything done on time, or maybe I don't get at them at all. I'm never on time either, and it is piling up so that he is getting irritated.

I don't like cooking, so I put it off and find myself reading a book and eating candy until it's almost time for dinner. Then I have to throw it together and he says it tastes like it. I know this sound dumb, but I don't know what to do about it. I just think, "I'll do better tomorrow." Can you help?

DUMBELL

DEAR DUMBELL: You are not dumb, you



**VIRGINIA
KAY**

know your own faults. You are not alone in putting things off. We all have the manana tendency to some degree. It is hard work for most of us to set ourselves down to all those letters we should write, to make telephone calls to friends, to visit those who cannot come to us, all the million and one things that require us to try for better organizing our days.

Some years ago a friend fell into the same slump that you are in. She programmed herself each day. She gave herself a certain length of time for each activity for the 12

hours. She treated herself in the middle of the morning if she had kept to her allocated time for each household duty. It worked for a year, as I remember, and the old pattern began again. Even loving her husband dearly wasn't motivation enough, and the marriage ended. She left to find a job and handle the difficult life of a single mother.

The problem is lack of motivation and goals. You do need to program yourself, and you also need to find something you enjoy doing, whether it is a hobby or project at home, a club, a class or volunteer work. A new interest could provide an incentive to hurry to get the housework done so you could do what you really enjoy. You may need a few therapy sessions to help you.

Tomorrow won't always do. It is later than we think, so I'd better get to work. I'd better get to my next column and column mail. Hi ho, and off to work we go.

Angels: Keeping the lookout in San Gabriel Valley

Continued from Page C-1

of each trainee, the Guardian Angels say that they do telephone police departments for criminal records.

A criminal record may preclude membership in the group and to become full-fledged members, prospective Guardian Angels either have to have a job or be enrolled in school.

And former gang members do, indeed

As for the question of vigilantism, the Guardian Angels answer before it's asked.

"We're not vigilantes," Lewis warned the recruits. "We don't carry any weapons on patrol. Our main objective is to patrol high crime areas and provide a visual deterrent so hopefully when people see us walking around they will be less likely to snatch that purse, commit that rape or steal that car stereo."

The Guardian Angels stress that they

ago, and calls to law enforcement offices revealed even fewer. Even police officials admit, however, that they are unable to calculate how many crimes the Guardian Angels' presence may have deterred.

The Guardian Angels say that crime prevention won't be the only focus of the budding chapter. Food and clothing distribution to the needy and court escorts also might be functions, they say. They also talk of patrolling parks on certain days of the

FINA

Joan & David

Yves St. Laurent

Pancaldi

Mr. Sey

D. Sommer
Fine Footwear

NAMES! MONEY! NAMES! PRIZES! NAMES! AND MORE! /A-13

Wednesday
August 14, 1985

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25 cents

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Los Angeles Herald Examiner

LOS ANGELES HERALD

EXAMINER

ON OP-ED:
BILL BUCKLEY
DECLARES WAR
ON PEACENIKS
A-15

IN STYLE:
ED BEGLEY JR.
OPERATES IN
NEW THEATER
B-1

IN SPORTS:
POINT-SHAVING
TRIAL IS OFF,
THEN ON AGAIN
C-1

LAPD's war on alien drug dealers

By Ruben Castaneda
Herald staff writer

Police give suspects' names to Immigration

In an effort to stop undocumented aliens who are migrating north in droves to sell drugs in the city's Rampart area, Los Angeles police have begun an alliance with immigration authorities aimed at deporting drug dealers.

"It's a big problem and it's getting bigger," LAPD Deputy Chief Clyde Cronkhite said. "It's just come to a crescendo the last couple of years."

The three-month-old drug enforcement program, "Retake the Streets," which focuses on the

Rampart area west of downtown, has resulted in 1,692 drug arrests, 63 percent of which were made on illegal immigrants, Cronkhite said.

Most of the immigrants, primarily from Mexico and Central America, are believed to have come to Los Angeles with the intention of

selling drugs in the Rampart area — a dramatic departure from past years, when illegal immigrants accounted for a much smaller percentage of people arrested for drug dealing.

Word has gotten around in Mexico and Central America that

"you can come to L.A. and sell dope, and here (Rampart) is the place to do it," Cronkhite said.

To combat the growing problem, investigators involved in "Retake the Streets" last week gave the Immigration and Naturalization Service the names of suspects

whom they believe are in the country illegally and who have had charges filed against them.

Police and immigration officials outlined the plan last night during a meeting of 150 people, almost all of them Hispanic, at Berendo Junior High School. The plan was warmly received.

"It's good. You have to fight

Drugs/A-9, Col. 2

L.A.'S MORNING BRIEFING

Four shot after domestic dispute

One person was in very critical condition and three others were wounded in a shooting stemming from a domestic dispute near the Los Angeles Coliseum last night. After the shooting in the 1200 block of West 42nd Street at 9:10 p.m., the body of an unidentified male was dumped at Normandie Boulevard and 51st Street, police said. One woman and three men were hospitalized. Police said the woman was holding an infant, who was unharmed.

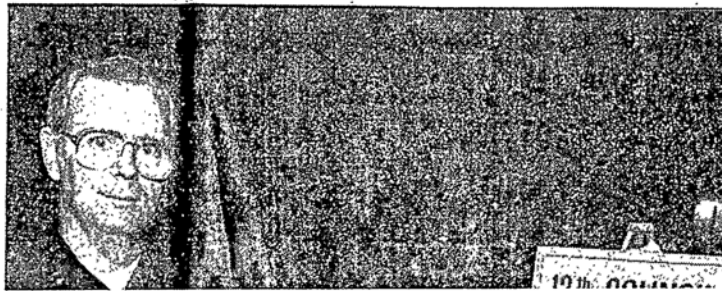
Rescuers go through jet's debris

Little chance seen for more survivors

UENOMURA, Japan (AP) — Rescue workers carved out a makeshift helicopter pad atop a remote mountain ridge early today and began removing bodies from the shattered Japan Air Lines jet that crashed and killed as many as 520 people.

Rescue workers found four females alive yesterday after seeing a hand move in the debris, but police

Ganging up against Night Stalker



Frightened citizens gather; supervisors offer \$10,000 reward

By Timothy Carlson
and Chris Woodyard
Herald staff writers

The brutal killing of a 30-year-old Monterey Park woman may be linked to the elusive Night Stalker, who is connected to at least 14 recent attacks including

and it's Deputy Aid. "It's the last rug en-ake the on the Rampart area west of downtown, has resulted in 1,692 drug arrests, 63 percent of which were made on illegal immigrants, Cronkhite said. Most of the immigrants, primarily from Mexico and Central America, are believed to have come to Los Angeles with the intention of

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To combat the growing problem, investigators involved in "Retake the Streets" last week gave the Immigration and Naturalization Service the names of suspects

charges filed against them.

Police and immigration officials outlined the plan last night during a meeting of 150 people, almost all of them Hispanic, at Berendo Junior High School. The plan was warmly received.

"It's good. You have to fight

Drugs/A-9, Col. 2

Ganging up against Night Stalker



Capt. Walt Mitchell displays Neighborhood Watch signs available from LAPD offices as part of crime-prevention program.

Frightened citizens gather; supervisors offer \$10,000 reward

By Timothy Carlson and Chris Woodyard
Herald staff writers

The brutal killing of a 30-year-old Monterey Park woman may be linked to the elusive Night Stalker, who is connected to at least 14 recent attacks including seven murders, Los Angeles County sheriff's investigators said yesterday.

Meanwhile, reacting to the terror that has gripped county residents, the Board of Supervisors yesterday offered a \$10,000 reward for the stalker.

Sheriff's Capt. William R. Hinkle said the March 17 shooting of Tsallian Yu, 30, of Monterey Park is among the cases under investigation by a task force of detectives.

He said Yu was pulled from her car in the 500 block of Alhambra Avenue at 11:45 p.m., about an hour after Dayle Okazaki, the Night Stalker's first confirmed murder victim, was shot to death in her condominium.

Okazaki's home is about two miles from where Yu was shot repeatedly by the man who yanked her from her car at a stop sign. The man fled in a car.

In Los Angeles yesterday, Supervisor Pete Schabarum said, "It is important that (members of) this board do all we can to help in bringing the person or persons responsible for these senseless

Fear/A-9, Col. 4

Californians split by on divestment

The poll found that 43 percent of those state residents expressing an opinion on the increasingly controversial issue said they disapprove of divestment, while 41 percent approve of the action.

The poll also found a similar split about whether Congress and President Reagan should do more to pressure South Africa to end that

Poll/A-8, Col. 1

Arsonists burn home of wife of black leader

Arsonists in South Africa burned down the home of Winnie Mandela, wife of an imprisoned black leader. She accused police of setting the fire/A-8.

Labor union supports Bradley on divestment

Mayor Tom Bradley's push for divestment was endorsed by one of the labor unions representing city government workers/A-8.

Council committee approves AIDS discrimination ordinance

By James Jones
Herald staff writer

A Los Angeles City Council committee yesterday voted for a ban on discrimination against AIDS victims, a problem the ordinance's sponsor said is dramatically increasing in the city.

The proposed ordinance was approved unanimously but not

until it was gutted of sections which called for criminal penalties that had been urged by its sponsor, Councilman Joel Wachs.

The proposal is scheduled to go to the full council for a vote today. Wachs urged swift action on the proposal, saying that about half of the people with acquired immune deficiency syndrome filing com-

AIDS/A-9 Col. 2

OPERATION: 'RETAKE THE STREETS'



The drug crackdown is going on in the Rampart area (shaded) west of downtown.

LAPD, INS unite to target illegal alien drug dealers

Drugs/Continued from A-1

against drug trafficking, you have to fight criminals," said Jose Antonio Linares, 56, who attended the neighborhood meeting with his wife and son.

The plan is being tried out in part because police are frustrated when drug dealers are arrested but receive probation or serve only a few months in jail. Also, many undocumented aliens are arrested for drug-related crimes.

Almost all of the 1,692 arrests are for narcotics offenses, said Detective Steve Bare, a member of the task force.

Of those arrests, 842 were for sale or possession for sale of marijuana; 97 for sale or possession for sale of heroin; 63 for sale or possession for sale of cocaine; 13 for sale or possession for sale of PCP; and 400 for possession or use of heroin. Other arrests were made on various felony, and misdemeanor warrants for such crimes as burglary and receiving stolen property, Bare said.

In addition, \$120,000 worth of narcotics, \$80,000 in cash and 15 guns were recovered, Bare said.

The LAPD task force is concentrating on a heavily Hispanic area bounded by Normandie Avenue on the west, the Harbor Freeway on the east, the Hollywood Freeway on the north and Pico Boulevard to the south.

"We're looking to deport undocumented criminals," Bare said. "We're not trying to get INS to go through the community and make

sweeps. The undocumented persons in the community are the ones calling us (about the drug problem)."

Hispanic residents angry about the drug trafficking asked for INS involvement during two community meetings Cronkhite attended.

The names of 500 persons charged with drug dealing have already been forwarded to the INS, Cronkhite said.

Ernest Gustafson, Los Angeles district director for the INS, said immigration agents will interview these people.

If the agent determines the suspects are in the country illegally, the INS will put an immigration hold on them, meaning they will be turned over to the INS for deportation proceedings when they are released from LAPD custody.

Cmdr. William Booth, a LAPD spokesman, said the alliance between the "Retake the Streets" task force and the INS is not a decision by LAPD to enforce immigration laws. However, if successful, the operation may spread to other parts of the city, he said.

Immigrants' rights activists were critical of the LAPD-INS alliance.

Antonio Rodriguez, director of the Center for Law and Justice, said the new operation is discriminatory, because it affects Hispanics almost exclusively.

And Gilbert Carrasco, director of the National Center for Immigrants' Rights, said the LAPD would be overstepping its jurisdiction by trying to determine if any suspects are in the country illegally.

AIDS ordinance sent to council minus criminal-penalty section

AIDS/Continued from A-1

plaints die before the complaints are heard or investigated.

"A society which should be compassionate toward these people is treating them like lepers," Wachs said. "There are a large number of cases of discrimination out there, where people are being fired, evicted and can't get into an apartment because they have AIDS."

The committee decided to impose civil, rather than criminal, remedies because the process in civil court is much faster.

"Time is of a premium to these people," Wachs said. "We must stop this discrimination based on fear."

sources and Senior Citizens Committee bans discrimination in housing, medical and dental services, business establishments and public accommodations.

Deputy City Attorney Maureen Siegel said the proposal includes business establishments, such as restaurants, hotels, barbershops and dental offices, and public accommodations.

"I am far more comfortable with the ordinance now that the criminal penalties section isn't there," she said.

Siegel had argued for the deletion of a section which banned discrimination by an employer because a state law exists covering that aspect.

Frightened residents up in arms as fear of Night Stalker spreads

Fear/Continued from A-1

crimes to justice." Supervisor Kenneth Hahn, who joined in unanimous support for the reward, said that people now "live in terror."

This heightened awareness of crime and fear among citizens was evident last night during two neighborhood meetings.

In Diamond Bar last night, site of the Night Stalker's last murder, frightened residents met for the first time since the slaying last Thursday. And in the San Fernando Valley, residents joined in a national campaign to urge people to become involved in neighborhood watch programs.

The search for the Night Stalker has become the most intense joint police investigation since the Hillside Strangler case in the late 1970s. The sheriff's department is coordinating the investigation with five other police agencies in the suburban communities where the killer is believed to have struck.

More than 50 detectives from the six agencies are working on the case, said Hinkle.

Authorities again received a substantial number of tips from telephone callers yesterday, but reported no new leads in the investigation.

The suspect is thought to be an Anglo or Hispanic, 25 to 30 years old and about 6 feet tall, based on victims' descriptions.

His most recent attack may have come Sunday when an 84-year-old woman was raped in her San Gabriel home, though sheriff's investigators have indicated some doubt as to whether it was the Night Stalker.

During the Diamond Bar meeting, many of the 50 people who gathered at the public library said they are terrified because they are close friends and neighbors of Elias Abowath, 35, who was the last person killed in this series of vicious crimes.

"These killings can't go on," said attorney Paul Horcher, one of the six members of the Diamond Bar municipal advisory council who called the meeting last night.

Sheriff's Capt. Don Webster of the Industry station told the residents he is intensely concerned about these crimes.

"I drove by that house this afternoon," he said. "There I sat and pondered the same question: Why this house? Of all the houses here, what drew this person to this residence? It was a random selection, but the common thread with all the killings was the presence of an open window or an open door."

"If something seems strange to you, call us," he pleaded. "I'd rather come out five or six times and meet a Fuller brush salesman or a TV repairman than miss a chance to catch this guy."

Webster told the people there to practice dialing 911 in the dark.

Don and Emelle Ledesma, neighbors of the Abowath family, said they have established a trust fund at a local Security Pacific Bank branch for the surviving wife and two children.

Don Ledesma's voice was laced with emotion when he recalled the reaction of Abowath's 3-year-old son, Amer.

"The little boy went to Bob Wilson's house and asked for help that morning," said Ledesma. "In his 3-year-old understanding he said his parents weren't feeling well. We sat with the boy at his father's funeral. In his understanding, he thinks his father is sleeping."

Emelle said the neighborhood is stunned. "The shock of what happened — we still can't get over it," she said. "We can't sleep. We haven't been in our bedroom since that night. Now we have slumber parties in our neighborhood because we are all afraid."

Don added, "I want people to catch the guy, let's get back to living."

Emelle said, "My son, he's 17, and 6-foot-3 and 195 pounds, he won't go out. He sits in a chair with a baseball bat in his hands."

Bob Wilson, the neighbor who discovered the body after the little boy came to his house, said he and his neighbors have a gnawing fear. "What freedoms are there?" he asked. "You feel you have to be home before dark — and you don't sleep until it's light again. I've been exhausted at work. I come home at noon to check on the house."

About 50 miles west in Granada Hills, residents saw an artist's sketch of the stalker during a meeting for "Lights On, Night Out."

Chuck Schwennesen, 69, said residents of this middle-class community refused to be intimidated by the Night Stalker. "Our neighbors are concerned, yes, but we're not frightened to the point we'll give in," he said.

Schwennesen said he and many of his neighbors have guns.

Los Angeles police Capt. Walt Mitchell of the Devonshire division said his officers have distributed thousands of fliers with an artist's sketch of the stalker and his description.

"The way we're attempting to deal with that is to make sure people know we're looking for this guy and make sure he knows we're looking for him," he said.

The Night Stalker is being blamed for one crime in the Devonshire area, Mitchell said. "But one's too many," he said.

Residents also took the opportunity to plug Neighborhood Watch. Chuck Mason, co-chairman of the Granada Hills Neighborhood Watch, claimed the program was largely responsible for a 32 percent drop in crimes such as robbery, burglaries and assaults.

Mason said the wave of crimes attributed to the Night Stalker makes neighborhood watches even more important.

Herald staff writer John Fleck contributed to this story.

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JOE MORGENSTERN

Name-droppers and Night Stalkers

Yet another grisly nickname has entered the civic vocabulary. The Night Stalker is in our midst.

He started out in the middle of last week as a "bedroom intruder." That was after the shooting of a couple in Northridge.

The next day, following an attack in Diamond Bar, he was a "home invader," and after that a "night-prowling killer."

By Friday the police had speculated that one man might be responsible for as many as 30 such incidents currently under investigation. At that point the man, assuming there really is only one man behind all this horror, took on a new and more ominous identity. The Herald dubbed him the Night Stalker in its front-page headline, and over a map showing the locations of 11 assaults and murders in the San Fernando Valley and the San Gabriel Valley, we ran the headline "L.A. NIGHT STALKER'S DEADLY TRAIL."

That made it official.

Other people and agencies have tried other names since then. Channel 4 calls him the Walk-In Murderer, which doesn't have much of a lilt. For a time some cops were calling him the 818 Murderer, due to the fact — give thanks for extremely small favors — that he hasn't killed anyone in the 213 area.

City News Service's Norman Jacoby, the dean of Los Angeles police reporters and a man who has named several of these monsters in the past, dubbed this one the Valley Invader. That's not bad, but it makes him sound like some new and unpromising USFL team. Here at the Herald, reporters and editors also toyed with the Welcome Mat Murderer, the Back Door Man and still another high-concept monicker, the Midnight Rambler.

None of them could top the name that had topped Friday's story, however.

Yesterday our story went with The Night Stalker. So did one distributed by United Press International. The Associated Press used Night Stalker in its identifying slug, and Paul Harvey, following the Herald's lead, did a Night Stalker piece in

What's to be said in favor of Night Stalker is its inherent melodrama: i.e. its potential for selling papers -- and its show-business lineage. "The Night Stalker" was a TV series in which a reporter played by Darwin McGavin stalked killers who killed at night, including a vampire and a monster attracted to Las Vegas showgirls.)

What's to be said against it is the same thing that's to be said against all such melodramatic and often riveting nicknames for mass murderers: their potential for creating, sustaining and then intensifying a climate of fear.

It happens every time the press gets hold of a prolonged murder case.

Remember Jack the Ripper?

Mercifully no, we're all too young for that, though some of us can remember Laird Cregar playing the essence of the part in "The Lodger," and others of us thought that Jack the Ripping was high art when Stephen Sondheim put it to laughs and keening music in "Sweeney Todd."

But who can forget, thanks to vivid phrasemaking, the Black Dahlia case, the Red Light Bandit, Son of Sam, the High Rise Rapist, the Cat Rapist, the Zodiac Killers, the Freeway Killer, the Trailside Slayer, the Sunset Strip Killer, the Trash Bag Murderers, the Alphabet Bomber, the Hillside Strangler, the Skid Row Slasher and the Skid Row Stabber?

I talked to Norman Jacoby yesterday about these names and the effect they're apt to have on our psyches. He has a vested interest in some of them, of course. Just as the Herald named the Night Stalker, Norman, who recently celebrated his 50th anniversary in journalism, named, among many others, the Skid Row Slasher and the Hillside Strangler.

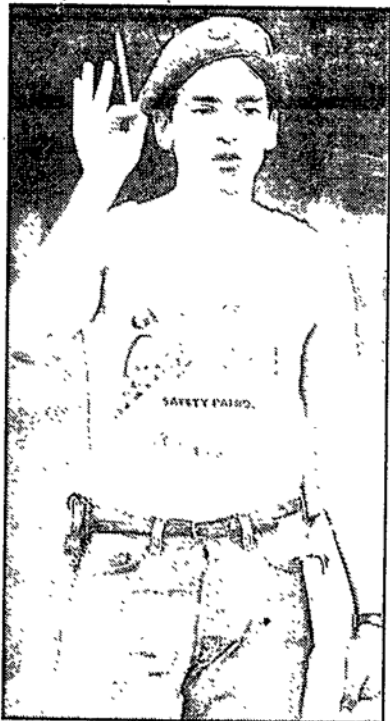
"I think 'Hillside Strangler' was as good a name as any," he said with perfect aplomb. "Even though it turned out to be 'stranglers' instead of 'strangler.' I think it was after the fourth murder that I came up with that one, because everything at that point with one exception seemed to have happened on hillsides. And by the way, that one exception is the crime they never did hook on them."

So much for pride of workmanship. But doesn't bestowing such sensationalist names on such unspeakable lowlife give them an importance they don't deserve?

Maybe so, but you still have to call them something. You need something that will stand out in a headline, or on TV, so the public will know what you're talking about.

That was the answer, I realized. You have to call them something. You cannot, day after day and week after week, write headlines or news stories about the Unidentified Person Who, During the Hours of Darkness, Gains Access To Homes Through Unlocked Windows Or Doors.

Calling the person the Night Stalker may be sensationalizing the case, and scaring readers all over town. But the person does stalk at night, and you have to call him something. Calling him the Night Stalker may, at the very least, scare citizens into locking their windows and doors.



Guardian Angels to live up to name

By KATHY BRAIDHILL
Special Correspondent

If you're a woman living alone in the San Gabriel Valley and are fearful of the Night Stalker — now said to have killed 14 people in at least 33 brutal assaults — you can summon a Guardian Angel to stand guard while you sleep.

Starting Tuesday, 15 to 20 Guardian Angels will be staying overnight in homes throughout the valley to discourage and confuse the Night Stalker and to protect and comfort residents, said Danny Lewis, chapter leader of the West Los Angeles Guardian Angels.

The new program comes as local Neighborhood Watch groups are undertaking similar efforts to guard against the Night Stalker.

Monterey Park police last week began "Operation Night Watch." Police are inviting the city's 200 Neighborhood Watch block captains to set up schedules for neighbors who

DANNY LEWIS

... Angels to house-sit

Please see ANGEL,
Page A-3

PASADENA STAR NEWS 9/25/85

Angel: House-sitting offered for elderly

Continued from Page A-1

volunteer to take turns staying awake and watching for suspicious activity on their block.

Residents can volunteer to stand watch for one to four hours, during which time they are supposed to stay inside their homes and call police if they see or hear anything unusual, Monterey Park Police Lt. Joe Santoro said.

"They're nervous and afraid," Santoro said of residents in his city. "This

gives them a chance to participate directly" in efforts to protect their neighbors.

The Guardian Angels, a volunteer group that started in New York and now has chapters in major cities around the country, was organized to help deter street crime by patrolling neighborhoods, reporting incidents to police and making citizens' arrests when necessary.

"Single, elderly women are frightened about spending the night alone because of what has been happening,

so we decided to test the (house-sitting) program here," Lewis said.

Curtis Sliwa, founder of the Guardian Angels in New York, will explain the house-sitting program Monday night at 7:30 in the multipurpose room of the Santa Anita Family YMCA, 501 S. Mountain Ave., Monrovia.

As a house sitter, the Guardian Angel will stay up between midnight and 6 a.m., while the homeowner sleeps,

Please see ANGEL,
Page A-9

Angel: Guard service offered

Continued from Page A-3

Lewis said. Neighbors in a four-block area will be told in advance where the Angel is staying and given the phone number.

If a neighbor suspects a prowler or another disturbance, he or she can call the Angel, who will immediately respond to the call after notifying the chapter leader, who will call police, Lewis said.

A local police official said the idea might be a good one, but he advised residents to call police first, by dialing 911, if they see anything suspicious.

Police are better equipped than the Guardian Angels to handle an actual intruder, Arcadia Police Sgt. Lou MacDonald said. "If in fact it's an intruder, I think it's time to call the police and then if (the Guardian Angel) wants to call his chapter leader, that's up to him."

The program has been a success in New York City, Philadelphia and in the suburbs of Miami, where many senior citizens live, Lewis said.

"It's a psychological comfort to the community because the response is immediate — we're already in the neighborhood. Some people have told us it takes up to half an hour for police to show up," Lewis said.

Lewis said some experienced Angels from New York City will be joining newly trained Guardian Angels as house sitters in the just-formed San Gabriel Valley Chapter, where more than 40 Angels have been recruited.

The chapter recently installed a phone line, (818) 446-6678. The chapter leader is Jim Sherwood, Lewis said.

The purpose of house-sitting is to keep potential criminals off-guard and help a neighborhood feel more secure, Lewis said.

"For the most part, we want to create a sense of security... maybe the residents can sleep easier knowing they can call someone who can respond immediately," he said.

"This might help create confusion in the (Night Stalker's) mind," said Lewis. "If you have a Guardian Angel staying up all night and he goes in there, it's like a Night Stalker rat trap — instead of finding a senior citizen, he'll encounter a Guardian Angel," he said.

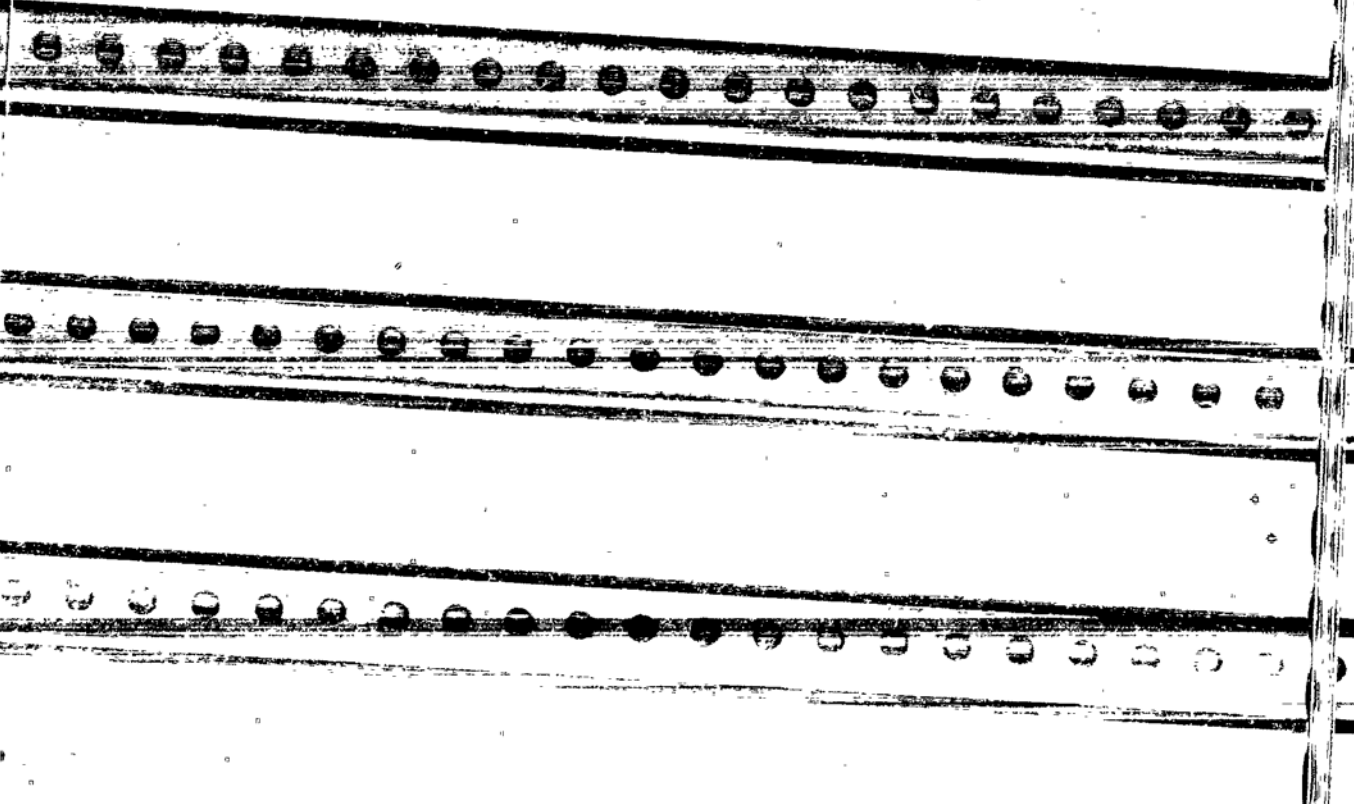
"We'd like to be able to catch the individual — (house-sitting) can increase the chances," Lewis added.

Angels will be scattered throughout the valley, rather than concentrating in one or two cities, and elderly women living alone will have priority if the Angels receive more requests than they can answer, Lewis said.

A neighborhood with many single, elderly people living in close proximity would be an area targeted first, he added.

STAR-NEWS

PASADENA, CALIFORNIA, SUNDAY, AUGUST 25, 1985



Dentists watch for Stalker

Pain might force killer to seek help

By BRANDON BAILEY
Staff Writer

The man believed to be the so-called Night Stalker killer has a painful dental problem that may drive him to seek help soon, a local dentist said Saturday after seeing the man's dental records.

In an effort to locate the killer, dentists around the state have been sent copies of X-rays and other information about the man believed to be responsi-

■ Psychologists discuss psychological profile of Stalker

■ Victims linked to killer listed
Stories, Page A-3

ble for 14 brutal slayings in Los Angeles County and San Francisco, law enforcement officials said Friday.

Local dentists contacted Saturday said they received circulars from the sheriff's department. They contain complete dental X-rays of a man with missing teeth and severe abscesses around two front teeth.

"Somebody with an abscess is going to have a problem, because they cannot stay with this pain for very long," said Dr. G.C. Khan of Montrose.

Officials also confirm that ballistics tests show the same gun used to kill a San Francisco man last week was used in some of the killings in a recent crime wave that has swept the San Gabriel and San Fernando valleys.

But news reports that the killer left a message scrawled on the wall inside the homes of at least two victims have drawn mixed comments from police sources. They fear the publicity may cause the Night Stalker to change his habits and make him harder to catch.

"Only one misinformed person has indicated anything about writing on the walls. We have no comment on that," Los Angeles County Sheriff Sherman

Please see STALKER,
Page A-3

'Stalker' driven by obsession

Psychiatrists say common thread is likely in series of killings

By BRANDON BAILEY
Staff Writer

He has been dubbed "a maniac psychopath." The so-called "Night Stalker" may be driven by an obsession that leads him to brutalize and kill his victims in retaliation for being abused as a child, two experts in criminal psychiatry suggested last week.

Sheriff's homicide detectives who are trying to catch the Night Stalker have asked the FBI to help prepare a psychological profile of the man, who is believed responsible for 14 killings and as many as 19 rapes, assaults and kidnappings in Southern California and San Francisco.

Authorities have declined to say anything further about the FBI profile.

Officials confirm that some evidence connects the Night Stalker cases. But police have said the case is different from other infamous "serial killings," such as the Hillside Strangler attacks, in which all the victims were the same sex and approximate age.

"There's been no consistency" in the types of weapons used and the age or sex of victims the Night Stalker attacks, said Los Angeles County Sheriff Sherman Block.

Two psychiatrists who have consulted widely in criminal cases said there could be a common thread in the recent killings. In separate interviews, the doctors gave their opinions based on their expertise and news accounts of the Night Stalker killings.

"Serial murderers by and large tend to pick out either someone they know or some-

one who symbolizes someone they know," said Dr. Alfred Coodley, an emeritus clinical professor of psychiatry at USC.

"It's very likely that the serial murderer as a child was either the victim of child abuse or child violence," or observed such abuse as a child, said Coodley, who works as a consultant to the Los Angeles Superior Court and the state parole system.

"Most of these people studied have been through a very traumatic background," agreed Dr. William Vicary, a forensic psychiatrist in private practice who also acts as a consultant to the Los Angeles Superior Court.

That background usually involves emotional, physical or sexual abuse as a child, Vicary said.

"The motive (for repeat killings) is a deep-seated anger or frustration, the need to retaliate for the abuse or pain they have suffered," he added. "They frequently take it out on surrogate victims."

Eight of the 14 people killed in the Night Stalker cases have been women, often elderly women. Five were brutally beaten or stabbed; the others were shot. The Night Stalker has attacked six couples, killing the husband and brutally assaulting or killing the wife.

While authorities say they don't know how the victims were chosen, Block said it appeared the killer in several cases had deliberately selected his victims after looking through a neighborhood.

Two theories could explain the attacks on

women, Vicary said.

"One pattern would be that the (attacker) had actually been molested by his own mother or stepmother," he said. In a more common scenario, he said, the killer could have been mistreated by his father, while his mother did little to stop the abuse.

"It's not uncommon for the little boy to blame the mother, as strange as that may seem," Vicary said. "This person grows up and hates women."

"Perhaps unconsciously he is identifying that elderly woman with a person who looks very different in age from himself, as a child may view his mother," Coodley said.

In two cases, the killer has attacked couples with children and in one case the killer attempted to molest an 8-year-old boy.

The killer may be re-enacting a personal experience with molestation, while at the same time "retaliating" against the parents, Coodley theorized.

As for reports of the latest killing in San Francisco, Coodley said he thinks that case is likely the work of a "copycat." If not, he said, the killer probably moved because of some personal association with San Francisco, rather than a desire to avoid police.

Many serial killers are transient, Vicary said, because their personality makes it difficult for them to hold jobs or maintain relationships with other people.

"He wouldn't be doing one of these crimes after another if there wasn't some kind of thing driving him or obsessing him," Vicary said.

CASES LINKED TO STALKER

Los Angeles County Sheriff Sherman Block said the following homicides have been linked to the so-called Night Stalker killer:

■ **March 17** — Dayle Okazaki, 35, shot to death in her Rosemead condominium about 11 p.m. Her female roommate also was wounded.

■ **One hour later** — Tsai-lan Yu, 30, shot to death by a man who dragged her from her car in Monterey Park shortly before midnight.

■ **March 27** — Vincent Zazzara, 64, and his wife, Maxine, 44, killed in their Glendale home sometime between 10:30 p.m. and 6 a.m. the following day. Zazzara was beaten severely; his wife was stabbed.

■ **May 14** — William Dot, 85, shot to death and his wife sexually assaulted in their Monterey Park home between 4 and 5 a.m.

■ **June 1** — Mabel Bell, 83, and her elderly sister found beaten in their Monrovia home. Bell died of wounds July 15.

■ **June 28** — Patty Higgins, 32, beaten and throat slashed in her Arcadia home between midnight and 2 a.m.

■ **July 1** — Mary Louise Cannon, 75, beaten and throat slashed in her Arcadia home between 10 p.m. and 9 a.m. the following day.

■ **July 7** — Joyce Nelson, 60, beaten to death in her Monterey Park home, between 2:30 and 10 a.m.

■ **July 20** — Maxon Kneiding, 68, and his wife, Lela, 64, shot to death in their Glendale home between 1 and 2 a.m.

■ **Three to five hours later** — Chainarong Khovanath, 32, shot to death in his Sun Valley home, between 5 and 7 a.m. His wife and son were sexually assaulted.

■ **Aug. 8** — Elias Abowatch, 35, shot to death in his Diamond Bar home, between 2 and 4 a.m. His wife was raped.

■ **Aug. 17** — Peter Pan, 66, shot to death in his San Francisco home, between 10:30 p.m. and 10 a.m. the following morning. His wife was beaten and shot in the head, but survived.

Stalker: Teeth may aid in capture

Continued from Page A-1

Block said Friday night.

Other law enforcement sources, while denying that words have been written on any walls, suggest there are certain "trademarks" left by the killer at some crime scenes.

Reports of a message left on the wall in the home of San Francisco accountant Peter Pan, who was shot to death last weekend, originated with San Francisco police, according to Bay Area newspapers.

Friday night, Block severely chastised San Francisco Mayor Diane Feinstein and police agencies he did not name for leaking information that Los Angeles detectives consider crucial to their investigation.

"That information has significantly jeopardized the investigation that is under way. In reality, it places this community in jeopardy because it impedes our ability" to capture the killer, Block said.

Feinstein announced Friday that ballistics tests were used to link the Pan killing with some of the murders in Los Angeles County. Also Friday, a San Francisco radio station first reported that investigators are seeking help from dentists to catch the killer. The report was repeated in a Los Angeles television newscast.

Referring to the dental records,

'One of the most critical pieces of information . . . was disseminated to 5,000 dentists.'

— Sherman Block
L.A. County Sheriff

Block said "one of the most critical pieces of information" in the investigation "was disseminated to 5,000 dentists." Dentists kept the information confidential for several weeks, he said.

Homicide detectives got copies of the X-rays from a dentist whose card was found in a car believed stolen by the killer, The Associated Press reported.

The unidentified dentist reportedly told authorities he treated a man matching the killer's description earlier this year. The man reportedly paid his bill in cash and gave a phony name and address.

From descriptions provided by several assault victims, detectives believe the killer is about 6 feet tall, 150 pounds, with brown eyes, curly brown hair and severely stained, gapped teeth.

Local dentists said they have been watching for a man who matches the

killer's description and that they would cooperate with police.

"This is a good idea," Khan said. "If any dentist sees (the man), they'll definitely notify the sheriff." But it is also possible the man may seek treatment at a clinic that hasn't received the sheriff's information, he said.

Although the type of weapons used and the age and sex of the victims vary widely in the Night Stalker attacks, almost all the cases involve victims who were assaulted in their homes by someone who got in through an unlocked door or window, Block said.

The first homicide definitely linked to the killer occurred March 17, Block said. Detectives are investigating a series of 19 other violent assaults, kidnappings and rapes that began in February.

Detectives are looking into the fact that several of the victims were Asian, but that probably is because the killer has struck in neighborhoods with large Asian populations, Block said.

Sheriff's homicide detectives, meanwhile, were called to investigate an attempted rape in Glendora Friday and the beating of a Van Nuys woman on Saturday. But authorities concluded neither case is related to the Night Stalker attacks.

"We have no evidence to indicate where he might be," Block said Friday.

Investments



IRIS SCHNEIDER / Los Angeles Times

Richard Ramirez with his new attorney, Joseph Gallegos, right, of Oxnard during appearance in Municipal Court.

Ramirez Allowed to Switch Lawyers

By PAUL FELDMAN, Times Staff Writer

Night Stalker suspect Richard Ramirez was granted permission by a judge Wednesday to dismiss Deputy Public Defender Allen R. Adashek as his lawyer and retain private counsel, Joseph Gallegos of Oxnard.

Los Angeles Municipal Judge Elva R. Soper approved the request at a brief court hearing that followed a closed session with the judge, Ramirez, Gallegos, Adashek and Deputy Public Defender Henry J. Hall.

Ramirez, a 25-year-old drifter originally from El Paso, has reportedly been dissatisfied with his public defenders since they were assigned to the serial murder case shortly after his arrest in late August.

Soper also agreed to postpone Ramirez's date for entering pleas to Oct. 22. Ramirez is charged with 68 felony counts in Los Angeles County stemming from 20 early-morning attacks on 28 victims between June 27, 1984, and Aug. 8, 1985. Fourteen of the murders he is charged with occurred in Los Angeles

County, and one occurred in San Francisco.

Gallegos, who has practiced law for 22 years in Northern California and Oxnard, had a brush with the law himself in 1976. He was placed on five years' probation for shooting a suspected prostitute in the hand after a dispute.

The attorney said he had informed Ramirez of the incident and that it should have no bearing on the current case. State Bar officials said Wednesday that the Bar has never taken action against Gallegos.

Defended Gang Member

Among his previous major cases, Gallegos said, was the 1979 defense of a member of Nuestra Familia, a Mexican prison gang, on murder charges. His client, he said, was convicted and sentenced to 27 years in prison.

Wednesday's hearing was punctuated by the appearance of Ramirez's sister, Rosa Flores of El Paso, who came in the company of three other lawyers—Arturo

ro and Daniel Hernandez of San Jose and Manuel Barraza of El Paso.

Arturo Hernandez told reporters outside the courtroom that he and Daniel Hernandez, who are not related, had been retained by Ramirez's relatives to head the defense effort. Barraza has previously said he was retained by the Ramirez family and was helping to find Ramirez a new lawyer.

However, Soper refused to recognize Arturo Hernandez when he stood up during the hearing in an attempt to address the court.

Outside the courtroom afterward, Gallego said he had informed Ramirez of the presence of the other attorneys and that Ramirez "indicated to me, 'Look, we reached an agreement Monday' . . . (and he said to) tell the others."

Meanwhile, Arturo Hernandez expressed confidence that Ramirez will change his mind after he meets with Flores, Barraza and him at the County Jail.

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RAMIREZ: Stalker Suspect Gets a New Lawyer

Continued from Page 1

"The defense never rests, and that's our attitude at this point," Hernandez said. "It's sad we have to fight to defend someone."

Gallegos said he was first contacted by Adashek last Friday at Ramirez's request. Ramirez, he said, had heard of him before, but Gallegos declined to indicate how.

At a two-hour meeting Monday, Gallegos continued, the defendant agreed to retain him. But Gallegos refused to disclose details of how he will be paid for his services in the case, which he estimated could take a

year to try.

Gallegos said Ramirez "was interested in having someone with experience" representing him. Ramirez also preferred an attorney with whom he could communicate in Spanish, Gallegos said. Gallegos speaks Spanish.

He agreed to take the case, he said, because "I have devoted my life to the practice of law . . . and I want to make sure that Mr. Ramirez—especially being of Latin descent . . . that he does have a fair trial."

Arturo Hernandez has practiced law for two years in San Jose. He said he first met Ramirez's sister while attending law school in El Paso. Her endorsement of Hernandez was backed by a brother, Robert Ramirez, in a phone interview Wednesday.

Robert Ramirez, a Tucson resident, also criticized Adashek, saying, "They don't let Richie make his decisions on what he wants. They just brainwash him so he doesn't know what's going on."

Adashek refused comment on the case. "It wouldn't be appropriate for me to make any statements," he said.

Weather: More clouds

Considerable cloudiness with a 20 percent chance of showers today. Highs 66 to 72, with lows 54 to 60. Decreasing cloudiness tonight.

— Full report, Page A-2

STAR-NEWS

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PASADENA, CALIFORNIA, WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 1985

Gruesome turn in Stalker case

Police search for eyes

By BRANDON BAILEY
Staff Writer

Detectives investigating the Night Stalker murders have searched for human eyes that were removed from one victim in Southern California and may have been mailed to Texas, authorities confirmed Tuesday.

Investigators believe the eyes

Stalker: Evidence is sought

Continued from Page A-1

assaults that terrorized Southland residents this summer.

Court records filed in El Paso show investigators are looking for handguns, knives, double-edged daggers, handcuffs, bloody clothing, long-distance telephone records and other evidence.

Searches at the homes of Ramirez's sister and father turned up more than 300 items that appear to have been stolen from Night Stalkers in California, authorities confirmed.

One affidavit contains a list of items sought by detectives, including writings or drawings that may have satanic connotations, which Ramirez may have mailed to his relatives. The Associated Press reported.

"It's the longest search warrant I've ever seen," El Paso County at Law Judge John Fashing said of the 55-page document, according to The Associated Press.

Law enforcement officials have repeatedly downplayed speculation that the Night Stalker killings were motivated by satanic beliefs, although sources have confirmed that pentagrams — five-pointed stars used in devil worship — were found in the homes of two Night Stalker victims.

The stars were found in the home of San Francisco accountant Peter Pan and in the home of one victim in Southern California, whose identity couldn't be learned. Pentagrams also were scratched into the wall at a San Francisco rooming house where Ramirez had stayed, San Francisco detectives said.

Authorities have described some of the Night Stalker killings as "grotesque." Sources close to the investigation confirmed that several victims were restrained by handcuffs and thumbcuffs.

Except for the case described in the affidavits, there were no other instances in which victims' eyes were gouged, sources said.

Ramirez hearing delayed

By BRANDON BAILEY
Staff Writer

It's "almost certain" that Night Stalker suspect Richard Ramirez will face more criminal charges when he returns to court in three weeks, the prosecutor in the case said Monday.

Ramirez now faces eight charges, stemming from a robbery in Monrovia and a murder in Monterey Park. He appeared briefly Monday morning in Los Angeles Municipal Court.

Judge Elva Soper granted a second delay in the proceedings, after defense attorney Allen Adashek said he needed more time to study police reports and other evidence in the case. Soper scheduled Ramirez to return Sept. 27 and enter a plea on the charges against him.

Adashek, a deputy public defender, was assigned to Ramirez's case last week.

Extra security precautions were evident as Ramirez, wearing manacles and blue prison coveralls, was led before the judge. Spectators in the crowded courtroom had to pass through a metal detector before they entered the room.

Afterward, Deputy District Attorney P. Philip Halpin told a crush of news reporters that "any additional charges that are going to be filed will be filed between now and Sept. 27."

"It is almost certain that we will file additional charges," the prosecutor added, without giving any details.

Police and sheriff's investigators have said they suspect Ramirez committed at least 15 murders and other violent attacks in the Night Stalker crime spree, which terrorized suburban residents of the San Gabriel and San Fernando valleys this summer.

The charges filed last week stem from a May 9 burglary and

Please see RAMIREZ,
Back page, this section

Ramirez: More charges expected

Continued from Page A-1

robbery in Monrovia and the May 14 shooting death of businessman William Doi in his Monterey Park home. The intruder who killed Doi also raped Doi's wife.

San Francisco authorities have charged Ramirez with the Aug. 17 murder of accountant Peter Pan in that city. But Ramirez probably won't face trial in San Francisco until all charges are resolved in Los Angeles County, Halpin said.

Adashek, meanwhile, told reporters he's concerned that news reports and public officials' statements have made his client appear guilty before the trial has even begun.

"The publicity in this case has been so intense and so frequent, it certainly raises a question about whether or not a fair trial can be held in Los Angeles or any other county," said Ada-

shek, a veteran defense lawyer.

Adashek said he hasn't decided whether he'll ask a judge to move the trial outside Los Angeles County.

Halpin said he would oppose any effort to move the trial, because of the "tremendous expense involved" in transporting witnesses and evidence. The prosecutor said he feels a fair trial can be held in Los Angeles County.

Adashek, however, cited statements made by various public officials, who he said "should know better."

"I think it's bothersome when public officials make statements that appear to presume the guilt of a person who's only been arrested and charged and hasn't even entered a plea yet."

As for news coverage, Adashek said, "you see some of the news stories, you'd think (the trial) was over, when in fact it's only begun. I haven't seen a case

that has been as deluged with (as much prejudicial) news coverage as this."

Authorities believe Ramirez, a 25-year-old drifter from El Paso, Texas, first came to California in 1981.

A private attorney from Texas, Manuel Barraza, may have been retained by Ramirez's family, but the question of who will represent Ramirez hasn't been resolved, Adashek said.

Adashek declined comment when asked to describe Ramirez's attitude or feelings about the case.

Ramirez spoke only twice in court Monday.

He answered "yes" when Halpin asked if Ramirez agreed to the delay in entering a plea and if he agreed to delay his preliminary hearing, in which authorities must present the evidence against him. The hearing can't be held until Ramirez enters a plea.

Loot Linked to Ramirez Found in El Paso Home

By DAVID FREED and DAVID HOLLEY, *Times Staff Writers*

About 300 rings, necklaces, brooches and other articles allegedly stolen by Night Stalker suspect Richard Ramirez were recovered last week from the home of his sister in El Paso, it was disclosed Tuesday.

It also was revealed that Los Angeles County sheriff's investigators searched without success in El Paso for a pair of eyes gouged from the head of a murder victim in Whittier.

Searching for the eyes and other evidence in an attempt to tie Ramirez to victims of the so-called Night Stalker, Los Angeles County sheriff's investigators and El Paso police last Wednesday went to the El Paso home of Ramirez's sister, Rosa Flores. There, they said, they found about 300 rings, necklaces, brooches and other articles allegedly stolen by Ramirez.

The missing brown eyes, however, were not found and the search for them continues, authorities said.

Capt. Robert Grimm, commander of the Los Angeles County sheriff's homicide bureau, would not discuss in detail what led detectives to suspect that the eyes may have been sent to El Paso.

"We searched the (murder) scene thoroughly and they weren't discovered," Grimm said. "We had information that stolen property had been sent to El Paso, and the eyes were still outstanding, and that's the rationale."

Despite the discovery of allegedly stolen articles in Flores' house, Grimm said Los Angeles authorities do not consider her an accessory in the case.

"At this point, there is nothing to indicate that she violated California law, which says that you have to know the items that you're accepting have been stolen," Grimm said.

According to an affidavit filed in seeking the El Paso search warrant, authorities also hoped to find pistols, ammunition, double-edged

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Los Angeles Times

Wednesday, September 11, 1985

Wave

RAMIREZ

Continued from Page 1

daggers, carpet knives, handcuffs, binoculars and paraphernalia related to satanic cults that may have been used by Ramirez.

Also sought were bloodstained clothing, tape recordings, video tapes or photographs of victims.

None of those items was found at Flores' house, nor were any discovered during a search at the El Paso home of Ramirez's parents, Julian and Mercedes Ramirez, authorities said.

Ramirez, a 25-year-old drifter, is suspected in at least 15 California slayings since 1984 and 21 assaults, rapes and kidnappings. Authorities believe that those crimes were committed by a lone intruder who entered homes before dawn through open windows and unlocked doors to attack his sleeping victims.

Formally charged in two homicides, Ramirez has yet to enter a plea and is being held without bail in Los Angeles County Jail.

Eyes of one 'Killer' victim cut out, document says

Associated Press

The eyes of one victim of the "Valley Killer" serial slayings were cut out, according to court documents that are the first official confirmation of mutilation in the string of at least 14 killings.

Los Angeles area police asked authorities to search for the eyes in the Texas home of defendant Richard Ramirez's sister, but none was found, according to documents cited Tuesday by the Los Angeles Herald Examiner and Los Angeles Times.

Investigators found more than 300 items allegedly stolen by Ramirez hidden inside the El Paso home of his sister, Rosa Flores, according to the Texas court documents.

"One victim's eyes were cut out in these murders," said a 55-page search warrant filed in Texas by Los Angeles County Sheriff's Detective Robert Perry. "They may have been mailed to the listed addresses."

News reports earlier said eyes may have been gouged from victims and satanic rituals may have taken place in the wave of at least 30 attacks attributed to the Valley Killer.

Authorities in their comments have played down devil worship, but the affidavit said investigators were searching for satanic materials such as writings or drawings that Ramirez may have mailed to his relatives.

Policeman finds culprit is just a 'crummy system'

Associated Press

A Los Angeles policeman is seeking a suspect in the case of Salvador Hernandez, a welfare recipient who can't afford to bury his dead wife, and Officer Modesto Perales says the culprit is a system that won't offer aid.

"In my 10 years on the job, I've never seen anything like this," said Perales of the 77th Street Division. "Nobody seems to know anything; nobody wants to help. It's as if all I can do is go home and moan about how crummy the system is," he said.

Perales and partner Steve Plunkett went to Hernandez's home late Monday afternoon when neighbors discovered the body of Rosa Hernandez.

Mrs. Hernandez had suffered from cancer. Her husband, a father of three, says he doesn't have the money for burial.

"I need help. Nobody's helping me," Hernandez said.

Perales stayed with Hernandez and contacted a private mortuary which wouldn't take the body without some payment. The policeman then called the county mortuary.

"We could have walked away then. We could have just left her body on the floor and gone. But (Hernandez) doesn't speak any English or have any money," Perales said.

He waited five hours with the South Central Los Angeles resident for the county to pick up the body.

The county facility does cremations for free, holding onto the ashes for five years unless the family pays a fee of \$287 — a fee Hernandez can't afford.

Meanwhile, Perales will get a lawyer to draw up a will for Hernandez.

"Sometime he'll go, too, and the county will spread the kids all over the place. See, I don't want to see them treated like trash," he said.

Ramirez family lawyer says public defender is after book, movie deals

By Andy Furillo
Herald staff writer

An El Paso lawyer said yesterday that he will advise the family of Night Stalker suspect Richard Ramirez to fire the public defender assigned to the case.

"My concern is that he has dual interests in this case," attorney Manuel Barraza said of Deputy Public Defender Allen Adashek at a news conference called by Barraza at the County Jail last night.

"He is more concerned with making money and making fame..."

Barraza was retained by Ramirez's family in El Paso to assess the case against the suspect. His accusation was the latest sign of a rift that has grown between him and Adashek, who was unavailable for comment yesterday.

On Tuesday, Adashek criticized Barraza for conducting a news conference the night before that, Adashek said, brought "added attention" to the case.

Yesterday, Barraza accused Adashek of making plans to handle book or movie rights that might stem from the Night Stalker case, in which Ramirez is suspected of at least 15 homicides statewide.

"I don't see where a public defender or a public official should be concerned with any book or movie rights," Barraza said.

Barraza had already said that he will attempt to handle those rights.

In addition to the conflict of interest accusation, Barraza charged that Adashek, in a meeting between the two attorneys yesterday, was "lackadaisical" in his consideration of possible evidence that could help Ramirez.

Barraza said Ramirez could establish a possible alibi by proving he was in El Paso "a lot of the time" during the Night Stalker killings.



Manuel Barraza
Will advise family to fire public defender

"When I told him about it, he said, 'Let me know. I'll think about it.' I think he was real laid back..."

Ramirez has been charged with the May 14 murder of William Doi, 65, in Monterey Park, and the Aug. 17 slaying of Peter Pan, 66, in San Francisco. Barraza would not say if Ramirez could prove he was in El Paso on those dates.

Barraza claimed that detectives have continued to try and talk to Ramirez since Adashek was appointed to represent the suspect. Adashek "did nothing about it," Barraza said.

When Barraza attempted to visit Ramirez last night in County Jail, the Night Stalker suspect refused to see him. Barraza said that Ramirez also refused to meet with him on Wednesday.

He said he will return to Texas tomorrow and advise the family to hire a private attorney in California.

Letters to The Ti

Capture of Ramirez

Five residents of East Los Angeles tempered their force with intelligence in attempting to rid their neighborhood of criminal intruder. Their courage is noteworthy in contrast to the vigilantism insinuating itself into a society increasingly victimized by motiveless murderers.

In responding to the threat of a petty criminal, these five citizens mobilized their community into the efficient capture of a man subsequently identified by police as the Night Stalker.

Richard Ramirez' captors were not aware that their prey was suspected of at least 16 brutal murders and numerous assaults. They were simply protecting their families and neighbors without anticipation of glory or reward. The fact that Ramirez was subdued, pending lawful apprehension by the police, rather than being butchered in retaliation for his offenses, bespeaks admirable restraint on the part of his captors.

Last week, the Board of Supervisors honored Jose Burgoin, Manuel De La Torres, Frank Moreno, Faustino Pinon and Carmelo Robles, in addition to the arresting officer, Andres Ramirez, with public commendations. During the ceremony, one of the honorees joked that, "If I had know who he was, I would have asked for more help!"

Unlike this unassuming hero, we can identify these men whose courage has severed the cycle of serial atrocities. A \$70,000 reward has been offered to be conferred on persons who report information leading to the arrest and conviction of the Stalker. The Board of Supervisors should distribute its \$30,000 portion of the reward to the five private citizens responsible for Ramirez' capture. These good citizens have saved countless lives.

IRENE SKINGLEY
CINDY JOYCE
NANCY RUDOLPH
JOAN MONK
Los Angeles

The Times welcomes expressions of all views from readers. Letters should be kept as brief as possible and are subject to condensation. They must include signature, valid mailing address and telephone number, if any. Pseudonyms and initials will not be used. Because of the volume of mail received, unpublished individual letters cannot be acknowledged. Send to:
Letters to the Editor, Los Angeles Times,
Times Mirror Square, Los Angeles, CA 90053

costly trial. After he's convicted (in spite of the experts mobilized to defend him), he'll be housed in clean private quarters, kept in idleness, and fed and clothed at state expense. His teeth will be fixed. His health, both physical and mental, will be checked periodically and treated, all by the state. Psychiatrists may certify him insane and transfer him to a nicer room at the hospital.

Years of appeals will follow, conducted by armies of lawyers. He'll make repeated applications for parole, requiring endless hearings.

While all this is going on, his "rights" will be jealously guarded by a host of do-gooders, eager to spot the slightest infringement.

If he discovers he's been "born again," he'll attract another host of well-wishers, clamoring for clemency and release. Assorted weirdos and wackos will offer support and sympathy.

What about the families of his victims? They'll grow gray praying for a swift, clean stroke of justice, hoping and waiting. And waiting. And waiting.

WARREN BUELL
Los Angeles

I am most grateful for the capture of the Night Stalker and want to express my feelings.

Bravo, bravo, bravo, again and again to the residents of Hubbard Street for the capture of the Night Stalker. Could you believe, by his capture by the wonderful people, how many other lives were saved?

This is a perfect example for each and every neighborhood to take into consideration what a well-knit group of people can accomplish.

This neighborhood should be highly commended. In the process of the capture, their lives were also in danger. They have made my nights and days easier to live with. Feel proud of yourselves, God bless you, thank you, I love you.

GIZILL CHOCHOLAK
West Covina

I would like to publicly thank all of the law enforcement personnel for all of their work in dealing with the Night Stalker. I am also grateful to the media for keeping the public well informed and alert to such a dangerous individual.

My hat is off today to the citizens of East Los Angeles for their action in confronting and capturing Richard Ramirez. Because of them we can all sleep better tonight. Although they might not regard themselves as heroes, in the minds of thousands, they are.

KIMBER MILLER
Whittier

Let the Night Stalker nightmare be a lesson to those who would have us surrender our handguns and perhaps our long guns once the authorities have their foot in the door.

And perhaps landlords should be more tolerant toward well-behaved dogs who are more sensitive to those things that go bump in the night.

C.H. GULLETT
San Clemente

I find myself appalled at what I see happening in the media regarding Richard Ramirez—the *suspected* so-called Night Stalker. What's going on here?

Local television has been filled with interviews of residents crying, "Thank God, they caught him." Apparently most of the world needs reminding that the man was only arraigned on Tuesday. His trial has yet to begin. The man has not yet been convicted!

I am not prescient; I will not comment on the results of Ramirez' trial. But it occurs to me that since the advent of electronic media, it has been impossible to get the fair trial guaranteed in the U.S. Constitution.

KEVIN LAUDERDALE
Pasadena

The beating Ramirez received at the hands of angry citizens was the only punishment he'll ever get for his crimes. From here on out, it's all roses.

First, there will be a long and

BUSINESS**Turning hot
stock tips
into profit**

Investors keep ear to ground/C1

SPORTS**Rams break
silence on
Dickerson**

Say they offered to insure him/D1

Angels 11, Detroit Tigers 1
Dodgers 5, Montreal Expos 4

**ACCENT****Deposit
could be a
life saver**

Bone marrow on ice at CHOC/E1

METRO**Huntington
father's
frustration**

No answers in son's death/B1

T H E O R A N G E C O U N T Y

Register

TUESDAY EVENING

SEPTEMBER 3, 1985

25 CENTS

Tracing the life of 'stalker' suspect

'Loner' grew up in the underbelly of El Paso

By Jim Carlton
The Register

EL PASO, Texas — Richard Ramirez grew up in the underbelly of a city so poor that some residents still sleep on dirt floors.

He spent his time with pals that have nicknames like "Fuzzy," "Chico" and "Chino." His nickname was "Fingers," because of his inordinately large hands, friends said.

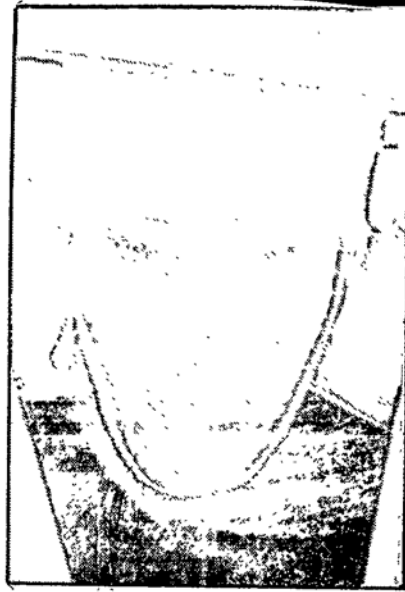
He regularly ditched school so he could partake in what those who knew him call his favorite pastime — smoking pot and popping pills while listening to the drugged-out

□ **CLUES:** Stolen jewelry and a citizen informant/A3

lyrics of heavy metal groups such as Black Sabbath and AC/DC.

And he would walk for hours by himself, they said, meandering aimlessly through the dusty back streets of the city; prompting curious neighbors to label him as "strange" and a "loner."

After interviews with family, former friends and former teachers, this is the picture that emerges of the adolescence of Richard Ramirez, the man Los Angeles authorities say is California's so-called "night stalker."



KNBC-TV

Richard Ramirez
Immediately after his arrest

Ramirez, 25, captured in Los Angeles by an angry crowd, is being

Please see **SUSPECT/A3**

SUSPECT: Ramirez is remembered in Texas as 'strange' and as a 'loner'

FROM A1

held in the Los Angeles County Jail without bond pending his arraignment. Police say he is the man responsible for at least 16 slayings and 18 assaults.

Back in El Paso — a dusty, sun-drenched town on the Mexican border — news of Ramirez's arrest took nearly everyone by surprise, even those who knew him as what they called a drugged-up "light-weight" thief who was prone to stealing from even his friends.

Eddie Medina, 27, a friend from Ramirez's teen-age years, says he once considered beating up Ramirez, "after I caught him stealing two tapes from my car."

But Medina added Ramirez never seemed violent. Although Medina said Ramirez once boasted that he knew karate, former neighborhood friends remember him as a "sissy" who avoided trouble.

"He was a harmless, skinny kid — a stooge," said Eddie Gonzales, 30, who lives in Ramirez's old neighborhood. "We used to make fun of him all the time."

Oscar Escarsega, 31, a former neighborhood resident, remembered Ramirez as a tall, gangly youth with a quick temper, but who always backed off from a fight.

Escarsega, now a Lompoc photographer who ran a recreation center in the neighborhood, said he also recalls a quiet, withdrawn boy who preferred to play by himself than with others.

"I tried to get him to play with other kids but he wouldn't," Escarsega said.

The neighborhood center was

created to help give youngsters an alternative to the streets, which Escarsega said offered only drugs, gangs and trouble.

Ramirez grew up in a neighborhood surrounded by street gangs, an area of east El Paso directly underneath the flight path of El Paso International Airport.

The neighborhood is sandwiched between a set of railroad tracks and a busy freeway system known locally as the "Spaghetti Bowl" because of its complex network of elevated, crisscrossing freeways.

Underneath the freeways and away from the view of passing motorists, the concrete highway pilings are covered with graffiti from the different street gangs who hang out there. The name of one such gang, the "Lords," is scrawled in huge letters on a part of the freeway visible from Ramirez's former home, a yellow, cedar rock structure where he lived from about age 5 to 15.

Even at a young age, Ramirez was considered different from the rest of the children. The youngest of five children, Ramirez stood out not only because of his reclusive nature, but because he had epileptic seizures, said his sister, Rosa Flores.

The fits continued into his adulthood, Flores said, and always were a source of embarrassment for him.

She said he was sensitive about his appearance, which was marked by severely rotting teeth. Although the entire family suffers from a tooth decay problem, Flo-

res said her brother's condition was exacerbated because he had an incurable "sweet tooth" and lived on junk food.

Survivors of the California "night stalker" attacks have described their assailant as having rotting teeth.

It was from such circumstances that Ramirez wanted to distinguish himself. Neighborhood acquaintances said he spoke often of wanting fame and riches and idolized criminals who had achieved one or the other.

"He always said he would be a millionaire," said one 27-year-old man who declined to be identified.

This was in his teen-age years. In his pre-teen years, his sister said, Ramirez was an A student who never got in trouble. Along with his family, he regularly attended services at the neighborhood's Guardian Angel Catholic Church.

But she said his school performance plummeted after he started "smoking weed" at about age 12 while in intermediate school. Two years later, he dropped out in his freshman year at Thomas Jefferson High School, an inner-city public school for the underprivileged.

The assistant principal there, Cesar Mendoza, recalled Ramirez as a "tall, quiet guy" who got into trouble for repeatedly cutting classes.

"He used to talk to me and he was polite (and) he would admit, 'Yeah, I cut class,'" Mendoza said.

Instead of going to school, which he hated, Ramirez crawled up un-

der the nearby Interstate 10 highway and smoked marijuana with a small circle of friends, Medina said.

Ramirez became more and more involved in drugs, Medina said, and at one point was using everything from marijuana to cocaine to LSD.

"All he'd do is play rock music," Medina said.

Flores acknowledged her brother had a drug problem. His police record also reflects it. El Paso city records show him being arrested twice for marijuana possession, in 1979 and 1982.

Neighbors said he broke into their homes to support his drug habit. El Paso police records show Ramirez being arrested for theft in 1977.

Information on how the courts handled those cases was unavailable.

Except for when he was under the influence of drugs, Ramirez was close to his parents, Julian, 59, and Mercedes, 58. But when smoking marijuana, Flores said, he and his father, a railroad-yard laborer originally from Mexico, fought continuously.

Medina said Ramirez always left home after such fights, wandering for miles through the city, passing through the "turfs" of street gangs with names like "El Diablos" and the "San Juans."

Ramirez was not a gang member, according to family and friends.

The gangs hang out at city parks and at street corner stands such as Chico's Tacos. They mark their

turfs by spraying graffiti on buildings.

Mendoza, the high school assistant principal, described east El Paso as very much like East Los Angeles, a huge barrio divided into separate gang territories.

The fights with his father eventually prompted Ramirez to leave home for good, Flores said. She said he moved in with her in another part of El Paso and lived there for about three years. Then he decided to move to Los Angeles to join his oldest brother, Julian Jr., 37.

His two other brothers, Roberto, 34, and Ignacio, 36, live in Tucson, and El Paso, respectively.

After moving to California, Ramirez fell out of touch with his family and friends — all except his sister.

He was closest to Flores, she said, and with her he maintained regular contact.

Ramirez lived with Julian Jr. in Los Angeles until two years ago, she said, when he moved out after the two fought bitterly over a car repair. Since then, she said, he had been working as a city of Los Angeles street cleaner and staying with friends for whom he had done favors.

The last time he visited El Paso, two years ago, Flores said she could tell something was wrong with her brother; he had the terrified look of a man who had seen something horrible such as one who had been to war.

"He didn't want to talk about it; he couldn't talk about it," she said.

Hollow relief at arrest of 'stalker' suspect

My reaction to the arrest of the man police say is the "night stalker" probably was not much different from yours. Amused at the squabbles over who should share in the reward. Intrigued by reports that the suspect had dabbled in satanism. And, of course, relieved that the terror seems to have ended.

But, when we think about it, it's a curious, disquieting sort of relief, isn't it? A relief tempered by a feeling hard to put a finger on. We should be overjoyed, and yet ...



**BOB
EMMERS**

For one thing, I suppose, our relief serves to highlight the fear — the vaguely embarrassing fear, at that — which we were feeling.

The fear the "night stalker" engendered wasn't the kind of fear that is good for you, that pumps adrenalin into your system, quickens your pulse, sharpens your reactions, gets you on your toes, ready to deal with a

threat.

No, this kind of fear was the dark fear, the debilitating fear, the kind of fear that can — if you don't get a grip on it right away and lock it down — leave you quivering like a small child in terror of the night that surrounds the bed. The kind of fear that embarrasses you later because its hold is so irrational, so hard to break.

The "night stalker" affair was not the sort of thing we could imagine, before, that we'd worry about. We knew that our chances of being attacked by him were probably a couple million to one. And we knew we ran a much greater risk of being killed in an automobile accident. And we knew that we were not the sort of people to whom such a horror could happen. And we knew that ...

Then, one night a week or so ago, as we were getting ready for bed, we found ourselves going around the house, checking to make sure that all the doors and windows were locked, checking to make sure that we'd left all the outside lights on, checking to make sure that the dog was especially alert.

And we slept lightly that night, as we slept lightly subsequent nights, awakening at sounds from the street that wouldn't have bothered us before, and we lay there, imagining him coming through the door, and for a few long moments we were unable to breathe, unsure if we could even move, assailed by the irrational fears that we thought we had left behind with childhood.

Why did the "night stalker" make us feel like this when other serial killers didn't conjure up this same feeling of fearful impotence? Because the "night stalker," on the loose, was different

T H E O R A N G E C O U N T Y

Register

THURSDAY EVENING

SEPTEMBER 5, 1985

25 CENTS

Prints link 'night stalker' suspect to 1984 slaying in Los Angeles

By Lennie LaGuire
and Shawn Hubler
The Register

Richard Ramirez's fingerprints match those found at the apartment of an elderly woman whose throat was slashed last summer, police said Wednesday, indicating the so-called "night stalker" slayings may have begun much earlier than first believed.

Los Angeles Police Chief Daryl Gates said the prints were found after the June 28, 1984, slaying of Jennie Vincow, 79, and the match has prompted authorities to scour

■ **INNOCENT:** A mob stalks the wrong man in Tennessee/A22

■ **REWARD:** Guidelines formed for dividing reward/A22

files dating to 1981 for unsolved slayings, robberies, rapes, auto thefts, burglaries and child molestations.

That year marked Ramirez's first arrest in California, in connection with a petty theft in Pasadena.

When Ramirez was arrested Saturday in East Los Angeles, police

said they suspected him of at least 14 slayings dating back six months.

As the new, 15th suspected "night stalker" slaying came to light, other developments included the following:

■ Authorities revealed that a Los Angeles police officer stopped Ramirez for a traffic violation on Aug. 26 — the day after a "night stalker" attack on a Mission Viejo couple — but did not recognize him from composite drawings of the suspect. He also was stopped in June while allegedly driving a stolen car, but he eluded a Los Angeles police officer.

Please see **RAMIREZ/A22**



Daryl Gates
Los Angeles police chief

RAMIREZ: San Francisco reopens investigation into 3 slayings

FROM A1

les Police motorcycle officer by running away.

■ Court records show that a man matching Ramirez's description, using the name Richard Munoz Moreno, was released from jail Jan. 23 — within a month of the onset of this year's string of attacks. When police named Ramirez on Friday as their prime suspect in the serial killings, Orange County Sheriff Brad Gates listed Richard Munoz Moreno as one of his aliases.

The man had been serving a sentence in Los Angeles County for the theft of a Toyota station wagon in late 1984.

■ Twenty Los Angeles County sheriff's cadets recovered six articles of evidence from the York Avenue on-ramp to the northbound Glendale (2) Freeway near East Los Angeles.

Authorities would not identify the articles, which were recovered during a search for a handgun Ramirez allegedly dropped before his capture in Boyle Heights. But 40 other cadets looking for the gun were called off the search after the Glendale Freeway discovery.

■ Police say Ramirez telephoned his brother in Tucson, possibly from a Phoenix bus station, the night before his capture. The brother notified Tucson police the next day, just as Ramirez was being arrested in East Los Angeles.

Witnesses in Phoenix reported seeing the thin drifter hanging around the bus station in Phoenix on Thursday and Friday.

■ Sources close to the investigation said Wednesday that Los Angeles police had enough evidence to file at least three more murder charges against Ramirez from among the 15 killings attributed to the "night stalker." So far, one murder charge — for the killing of William Doi, 66, of Monterey Park — has been filed.

■ San Francisco authorities say they expect Ramirez to be arraigned again in Los Angeles this week on a murder warrant and complaint stemming from the Aug. 17 slaying of a San Francisco businessman.

They also are reopening investigations into three unsolved slayings that may be linked to the serial killer. The cases include the Feb. 20 stabbing of two sisters and a June 2 shooting of a 29-year-old man.

■ Orange County authorities said they would be ready within two weeks to file charges against Ramirez in the "night stalker" assault on a Mission Viejo couple Aug. 25.

■ Three Los Angeles-area state senators have written a letter to Los Angeles County Sheriff Sherman Block and Los Angeles Police Chief Gates, asking that the residents of East Los Angeles who captured Ramirez be given \$70,000 in reward money that was offered by various agencies involved in the "night stalker" case.

In the slaying of Vincow in the Glassell Park section of Los Angeles, two of Ramirez's fingerprints

Innocent man is beaten by angry Tennessee mob

Associated Press

KNOXVILLE, Tenn. — An innocent man was cornered and beaten last weekend by a neighborhood mob looking for a rape suspect, and a detective warned Wednesday of vigilantism inspired by the arrest in the so-called "night stalker" case in Los Angeles.

"We don't know for sure what sparked it," Detective Charles Coleman said of Saturday's incident, in which 25 people surrounded a man who resembled a police description of a young man wanted for rape, sexual assault and robbery.

"They might have seen it on the news. They might have just been trying to protect their wives and girlfriends. Just because somebody looks like the person we're after doesn't give them the right to beat that person half to death," Coleman said.

The man attacked by East Knoxville residents was arrested but later released after a woman who had been attacked earlier in the day told police that he was not the assailant. Coleman said the man was "roughed up" but not seriously injured.

"I was walking down the street when they jumped on him," 17-year-old Michael Dixon said of the teen-ager who was wrongly attacked. Dixon said he knew the youth from high school and tried to protect him.

match those found last year on a window screen removed from the woman's first-floor apartment, Gates said. So far, it is the only one of the three "night stalker" crime scenes that fall under the jurisdiction of Los Angeles police in which fingerprints linked to Ramirez have turned up, Gates said. In most cases, investigators have said, the assailant wore cotton work gloves.

"We have one street light for this whole neighborhood," said Vincow's next-door neighbor Bill Gallegos. "It's so dark, anything can happen here. You can probably get away with more than one murder here."

"I've never seen so much fear in the neighborhood than during this thing. And finding out now that it was *him* (last summer) kind of just heightens the thing ... the paranoia."

Victims of the "night stalker" were shot, bludgeoned or stabbed or had their throats slashed. In nearly every case, the assailant crept into victim's darkened home through unlocked or easily forced windows or doors. Though the choice of victims apparently was

"I told them he was OK. A few of us got around him so they couldn't get him. It was crazy. Everybody's hunting this guy. Everybody thinks they've seen him," Dixon said.

Coleman said the person police are looking for is suspected of eight assaults, a rape, several sexual assaults and robberies.

"This case is hard enough to solve without mob vigilantes to contend with. I just hope some little kid doesn't get shot taking a shortcut through somebody's back yard," Coleman said.

People in the neighborhood say they are encouraged by the actions of residents of East Los Angeles in apprehending Richard Ramirez, who has since been charged with murder and seven other felonies in California's "night stalker" killings.

"If he gets more aggressive, so will we," Melvin Matthews said. "The thing in California showed what people can do. This man should know his time is coming."

Charles Kennedy, 30-year-old manager of a fried chicken restaurant across the street from where the attack occurred, said the California case was on people's minds.

"We used to be able to leave our doors and windows open on summer nights. But this guy's got everybody scared, like the dude did in California," Kennedy said.

Coleman said police have collected little evidence in the case.

random, police have said, the attacker's methods were so distinctive that "you could tell within one minute of walking onto a crime scene whether it had been done by him."

At several scenes, an inverted five-pointed star, a satanic symbol known as a pentagram, had been scrawled on walls with lipstick or ink. In San Francisco, the killer had inscribed the words "Jack the Knife" in lipstick. And sources close to the investigation said they were exploring the possibility that several of the attacks occurred on or around feast days listed in a bizarre, hybrid satanic-occult calendar.

In a sworn affidavit filed this week, a San Francisco police inspector, Frank Falzon, quotes an acquaintance of Ramirez's as saying he "has an intense interest in the belief of satanism."

Ramirez's friends have told police he was fascinated with the occult and wore a tattoo of the five-pointed star under his arm, according to the affidavit. Also, pentagrams were found on the walls of a San Francisco flophouse

where Ramirez was staying when the "night stalker" slaying there took place, police said.

However, police said the trademark piece of evidence that linked the "night stalker" killings to Ramirez and to one another was not of a satanic nature. Rather, they said without elaboration, it involves the way in which victims were attacked, the way in which their homes were entered and crucial physical evidence left behind at the scene of the attack.

Meanwhile, reports on an auto theft by a man police believe was Ramirez have shed some light on his reported penchant for using imported station wagons. One detective on the case said authorities believe he had obtained a master key capable of opening numerous Toyota locks.

"He stole the car in late November or early December, right out of my driveway," said Louis Rivera of Monterey Park, who added the 1984 theft of his car occurred early in the evening while he was at home. "I was watching TV with my wife in the house, and I went outside to talk my neighbor. The minute I stepped out the door, that vacant spot hit me like a bolt of lightning."

"What was strange was that I had another car right next to it that was much nicer and wasn't even locked. 'Why didn't he take the good car?' I wondered."

When the car was recovered, Rivera's question was answered.

"The police said, 'We got your car back, and the keys were in it,'" Rivera said. "I said, 'That's impossible. I have my keys.' I had them all along. But he had a key that apparently fit into the ignition of my car."

Rivera, whose car was recovered Dec. 12, about two weeks after the theft, said the man — who was arrested in the car after he nearly collided with a police vehicle in downtown Los Angeles — apparently had been living in the brown, 1975 Toyota station wagon.

"There were three parking citations from downtown LA, and there was fruit in it, and milk and some bobby pins, which led me to believe several people had actually been living in it," Rivera said. "And there was some other stuff there, too, when it was returned to me. A jacket, a rock cassette tape and a hunting knife."

Rivera said police told him Tuesday that they believe the car thief was Ramirez using an alias.

The car thief also was carrying a 4-inch folding knife in his jacket pocket at the time of arrest and had hypodermic needle marks on his arms, police reports say. He pleaded no contest to the charge of auto theft and was sentenced Dec. 20 to 75 days in jail, with credit for eight days served.

He was released from jail one month later, just before the "night stalker" attacks began in February, police said.

Register staff writer Edward Humes contributed to this report.

Dividing up the 'stalker' reward

Panels to decide how \$75,095 will be split

By Dan Weikel
The Register

LOS ANGELES — While those who helped police catch the so-called "night stalker" suspect differ over who deserves \$75,095 in rewards, rules are being adopted to divvy up the bounties offered for the capture and conviction of the serial killer.

In the pot are a \$30,095 reward sponsored by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, a \$25,000 bounty offered by the city of Los Angeles, and \$10,000 rewards from both the governor's office and the city of San Francisco.

This week the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors and the Los Angeles City Council passed guidelines and procedures for allocating their rewards. San Francisco and the state already have provisions to issue bounties with the approval of law enforcement.

"We must have an equitable way to dole out the funds and a way to make sure claims are legitimate," said Marilyn Lewis, a spokeswoman for Supervisor Pete Schabarum.

On Schabarum's motion Tuesday, Los Angeles County set up the application process and a panel to review claims submitted by those who say they have contributed to the arrest of Richard Ramirez, the "night stalker" suspect.

The Los Angeles City Council followed suit Wednesday, setting up an advisory panel of representatives from the city Attorney's Office and the Los Angeles Police Department.

Ramirez, a 25-year-old drifter and prime suspect in 15 "night stalker" slayings and 18 assaults from San Francisco to Mission Viejo, was arrested Saturday after running a gauntlet of angry residents in an East Los Angeles neigh-

borhood. He was charged Tuesday with one count of murder and seven other felonies.

The county panel reviewing the applications will be made up of representatives from the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, the county Counsel's Office, and the county's Chief Administrative Office.

They, like the city of Los Angeles representatives, will determine whether those seeking a reward actually contributed to the arrest and conviction of Ramirez, if he eventually is convicted.

Reward applications are now being accepted by the Los Angeles City Clerk's Office and Larry Montelh, executive officer for the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors.

Also during the supervisors' regular board meeting Tuesday, they honored seven persons who helped capture Ramirez after he allegedly tried to steal a car in East Los Angeles.

Receiving plaques were Sheriff's Deputy Andres "Andy" Ramirez, the first officer at the scene; Carmelo Robles; Manuel De La Torre, who hit Ramirez with a steel rod; his wife, Angelina, who was struck by the suspect; Jose Burgoin; Frank Moreno; and Faustino Pionon.

They have differed among themselves over who is entitled to the rewards.

De La Torre, 36, said as far as he can remember he and Burgoin, 54, were the only ones who caught the "night stalker" suspect. "Everybody else came to help when we already had him."

Jose Perez, 30, De La Torre's next door neighbor, said Burgoin was not around when he, De La Torre and Olegario Garcia, 35, captured the suspect.

Also in contention for a share in the rewards is a 13-year-old Orange County boy who provided police with a partial description of the suspect and the license number of an orange Toyota station wagon linked to the suspect.

T H E O R A N G E C O U N T Y

Register

SATURDAY

SEPTEMBER 7, 1985

25 CENTS



Associated Press

Deleen and Earl Gregg of Lompoc say they suspected Ramirez of a connection to the killings and went to police with evidence.

Ramirez's boyhood home searched

Lompoc acquaintances of 'night stalker' suspect say they gave evidence to police

By Lennie LaGuire
and Jim Carlton
The Register

Los Angeles authorities this week searched the Texas home of the sister of so-called "night stalker" suspect Richard Ramirez, a family member said Friday.

His brother, Roberto Ramirez, in a phone interview from his parents' home in El Paso, said authorities searched the home of Rosa Flores on Ledo Street Wednesday.

Flores, Ramirez's sister, lives in the house in which the suspect grew up.

On Thursday, Los Angeles Sheriff's spokesman Lt. Richard Walls said property allegedly stolen by Ramirez had been recovered in El Paso, San Francisco and the Los Angeles area.

He would not specify the locations searched, but said many items had been provided voluntarily to law-enforcement authorities by people who said they had purchased them from Ramirez or been given them by him

as gifts. Other property was recovered with search warrants, Walls said.

In other developments Friday, a Lompoc man disturbed by "too many coincidences" in the movements of his friend "Rick" described the sequence of events that had led him to inform authorities of his suspicions.

Earl Gregg, 25, said he first suspected Ramirez might be involved in the string of 15 serial killings on Aug. 25, when he heard news of the attack that morning on a Mission Viejo couple. Gregg said he had known Ramirez was in Southern California at the time, and had been in San Francisco at the time of an earlier killing.

Gregg said he went to Lompoc police the next day. The following Friday, he said, he provided authorities with a gold bracelet and and pearl solitaire ring Ramirez allegedly had given him.

Gregg's sister, Laurie, who said she had urged her brother to go to police, said officials were very appreciative of the tip, which police said led them to connect Ramirez with a burglary and

killing in San Francisco.

"They told us that it cracked the case," she said.

Another friend of Ramirez's, Donna Louise Myers of San Pablo, on Friday described the suspect as a "nice and polite" man. She said her 4-year-old granddaughter saw his picture in the paper after the arrest and exclaimed, "There's my Uncle Rick!"

Myers said she had been watching television news at her home with Ramirez several weeks ago when he asked her whether she thought he resembled the composite drawing of the "stalker" suspect.

"Jokingly, I said, 'You didn't have enough guts,'" Myers said.

Ramirez was arrested in East Los Angeles on Aug. 31.

In Orange County, meanwhile, the owner of Lamppost Pizza in Mission Viejo announced that next Thursday will be "Bill Carns Day" at his restaurant. Richard Morese said all receipts will be given to Carns' family to help pay his medical bills.

He said the pizza parlor often is patronized by employees of the

Burroughs Corp., where Carns worked before he was hospitalized with gunshot wounds after the Aug. 25 "night stalker" attack at his Mission Viejo home. Morese said Carns' girlfriend, who was sexually assaulted in the attack, has given her approval to the charitable project.

Carns remained hospitalized in serious condition Friday.

Los Angeles authorities refused to disclose Friday whether Ramirez, 25, had been identified by any of the 30 "night stalker" survivors and witnesses who viewed police lineups at the jail Thursday.

Sheriff's spokesman Walls also refused to say whether any property allegedly stolen by Ramirez had been identified by the survivors or by about 40 burglary victims who viewed it at Los Angeles Central Jail Thursday.

The merchandise included about 2,000 pieces of jewelry, including pearl and ivory necklaces, brooches and watches. Also on display in the jail conference room were numerous jewelry boxes and videocassettes.

Stalker suspect 'certain' to face more charges

By BRANDON BAILEY

Special Correspondent

It's "almost certain" that Night Stalker suspect Richard Ramirez will face more criminal charges when he returns to court in three weeks, the prosecutor in the case said.

Ramirez is now faced with eight criminal charges, stemming from a robbery in Monrovia and a murder in Monterey Park. He appeared briefly Monday morning in Los Angeles Municipal Court.

Judge Elva Soper granted a second delay in the proceedings, after defense attorney Allen Adashek said he needed more time to study police reports and other evidence in the case. Soper scheduled Ramirez to return Sept. 27 and enter a plea on the charges against him.

Adashek, a deputy public defender, was assigned to Ramirez's case last week.

Extra security precautions were evident as Ramirez, wearing manacles and blue prison coveralls, was led before the judge. Spectators in the crowded courtroom were screened through a metal detector before they entered the room.

Afterward, Deputy District Attorney P. Philip Halpin told a crush of news reporters that "any additional charges that are going to be filed will

be filed between now and Sept. 27.

"It is almost certain that we will file additional charges," the prosecutor added.

Police and sheriff's investigators have said they suspect Ramirez committed a total of 15 murders and other violent attacks in the Night Stalker crime spree, which terrorized suburban residents of the San Gabriel and San Fernando valleys this summer.

The charges filed last week stem from a May 9 burglary and robbery in Monrovia and the May 14 shooting death of businessman William Doi in his Monterey Park home. The intruder who killed Doi also raped Doi's wife.

Halpin declined to say what other charges may be filed.

San Francisco authorities have charged Ramirez with the Aug. 17 murder of accountant Peter Pan in that city. But Ramirez probably won't face trial in San Francisco until all charges are resolved in Los Angeles County, Halpin said.

Adashek, meanwhile, told reporters he's concerned that news reports and public officials' statements have made his client appear guilty before the trial has even begun.

Weather: Mostly sunny

Some high cloudiness but skies should be mostly sunny through Saturday. Highs today and Saturday 86 to 94. Lows tonight 60 to 65.

— Full report, Page A-2

STAR-NEWS

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PASADENA, CALIFORNIA, FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 1985

21 area crimes with possible Stalker link under investigation

By BRANDON BAILEY
Staff Writer

Detectives in the Night Stalker investigation are looking for evidence in a host of crimes reported throughout Los Angeles County, from Pico Rivera to Altadena, according to court documents obtained Thursday.

In addition to 15 murders that have been publicly identified by police and sheriff's detectives in the multi-agency Night Stalker task force, a Texas court filing indicates authorities have been investigating as many as 21 other

crimes, reported since February, that may be linked to the so-called Night Stalker.

Authorities previously said the task force is looking into a number of assaults and other crimes. The court filing represents the first time a complete list of cases has been made public.

Crimes in Pasadena, Burbank, Altadena, Pico Rivera, Long Beach and Santa Monica are listed. Local police, however, said some of those cases already have been ruled out as being linked to the Night Stalker.

The three-page, typed list is dated Sept. 2 and titled "Victims of the Night Stalker."

A spokesman for the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, which prepared the court filing, said he is unable to discuss the cases. "There will be no comment," Sheriff's Lt. Richard Walls said Thursday.

The list is among documents filed last week in El Paso County Court, where sheriff's detectives obtained warrants to search the homes of two relatives of Night Stalker suspect Rich-

ard Ramirez.

Ramirez, a 25-year-old drifter, has been formally charged in connection with two murders in Monterey Park and San Francisco and one robbery in Monrovia.

Police have identified him as the suspect in other Night Stalker crimes, including murders and brutal assaults that terrorized suburban residents of Los Angeles County this year.

Investigators used the Texas warrants to search for jewelry and other items stolen from Night Stalker vic-

tims, and to search for weapons, telephone bills and other evidence.

A sworn affidavit included in the documents states that detectives sought satanic messages or drawings and human body parts — specifically, eyeballs cut out from a Whittier woman believed to be one of the Night Stalker's earliest murder victims.

In the affidavit, Sheriff's Sgt. Robert Perry said two Northern California

Please see STALKER,
Page A-6

Stalker: 21 local crimes studied for links to killer

Continued from Page A-1

residents told police they received stolen jewelry from Ramirez, including items Perry said were stolen from Night Stalker victims.

San Francisco area resident Donna Myers told detectives she saw Ramirez mail a small package filled with stolen jewelry to his sister in El Paso, Perry said.

One of the crimes on the Texas list is a May 30 assault on a 40-year-old Burbank woman who was raped and robbed in her home.

Investigators searched the homes of Ramirez's relatives for jewelry and

other items stolen from the woman's residence, according to the court file.

Also listed are eight crimes against children younger than 10.

Investigators previously acknowledged they were looking into four cases in which young children were kidnapped from suburban communities and molested before being dropped off in Los Angeles.

In addition to those four cases — reported in Los Angeles, Arcadia, Montebello and Monterey Park — the remaining four cases involved a 6-year-old girl from Pico Rivera, an 8-year-old girl from Rosemead, a 6-year-old girl from Los Angeles and an 8-year-old

boy from Los Angeles.

The list also includes a March 24 murder in Long Beach and a July 16 murder in Pasadena. Police at first saw similarities in those cases, but they are not being linked to the Night Stalker, detectives with the Long Beach and Pasadena Police Departments said Thursday.

A Feb. 22 assault in Santa Monica, in which an elderly husband and wife were severely beaten but survived their injuries, also has been ruled out, said Santa Monica Police Detective Shane Talbot.

The March 21 stabbing death of a 38-year-old Altadena woman also is listed.

Investigators confirmed the case had some similarities to the Night Stalker killings, but another person reportedly was arrested in connection with that death.

No information could be learned Thursday about other listed cases that occurred in Whittier, Pico Rivera and San Gabriel.

The list also includes cases that have been publicly linked to the Night Stalker: 14 murders, the bludgeoning of a 16-year-old Sierra Madre girl, the robbery of an elderly Monrovia woman and the rape of a 64-year-old Monterey Park woman.

In another development Thursday, Manuel Barraza, a Texas lawyer retained by Ramirez's family, publicly criticized the Los Angeles County Public Defender's office for its handling of the case.

Barraza complained that Deputy Public Defender Allen Adashek has allowed detectives to question Ramirez and has ignored Barraza's offer of assistance in the defense, wire services reported.

The Texas attorney, who has said he would handle offers for book and movie rights to Ramirez's story, reportedly charged that Adashek is now trying to field those offers.

IS
of
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He preys mainly on the most vulnerable—children, women living alone, elderly couples. Most often, he creeps through unlocked windows and doors in the pre-dawn hours, attacking while his victims sleep.

The Valley Intruder

The Victims' Stories

The first to die was 34-year-old Dayle Okazaki.

Law officers combing through her Rosemead condominium on that cloud-shrouded March 18 morning believed that it was a single act of violence—one of the more than 1,000 homicides reported yearly in Los Angeles County.

Five months later, after a task force of law enforcement officers compared notes on 30 unsolved assaults and killings, it became chillingly apparent that they were looking at the work of a serial killer.

The Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department announced at a late night news conference Friday that the assailant has definitely been tied to 14 murders and 19 assaults. Previously, investigators had conclusively linked the killer to eight deaths and 15 assaults.

The victims newly identified by Sheriff Sherman R. Block include Joyce Nelson, William Doi, Lela and Max Kneiding and Vincent and Maxine Zazzara. The others are: Dayle Okazaki, Tsai-Lian Yu, Mabel Bell, Patty Higgins, Mary Cannon, Chainarong Khovananth, Elias Abowath and Peter Pan. The crimes linked Friday to the killer occurred weeks ago, and local law enforcement officials had strongly suspected a connection.

In an investigation larger than the one in the infamous 1977-78 Hillside Strangler case, detectives are going over every detail of the deaths, apparently at the hands of what one law officer called a "cunning and very, very dangerous" killer.

A Path of Violence From the Southland to San Francisco

By CAROL MCGRAW, Times Staff Writer

One of the victims was a student, another a special education teacher. Two were business executives and one a parking lot attendant.

Several were doting grandmothers, others lived alone. One contributed his time as a deacon in his church, another practiced meditation in his garden. One adored Glenn Miller records, another played the organ. One had been detained in a Japanese detention center in World War II.

They moved to California from many places: Pakistan, Italy, Pennsylvania, Kentucky. Five were Asians. Although their origins differed, they have become inextricably linked in death.

The Valley Intruder or Night Stalker, as detectives have dubbed him, preys mainly on the most vulnerable—children, women living alone, elderly couples. He has snatched at least two children off the streets, sexually assaulted

children off the streets, sexually assaulted them and let them go. He dragged one young woman from her car and shot her to death. Most often, however, he has crept through unlocked windows and doors before dawn, attacking while his victims slept. Several of the homes were ransacked and valuables were taken.

He has bludgeoned some victims, slashed others and shot still others to death. Victims who have lived to tell about the terrifying attacks have described their assailant as a 25- to 30-year-old man, 6 feet tall, slender, with curly hair and stained, gapped teeth.

The homes of his murder victims are surprisingly similar. All but one are small single-story residences with tidy front yards. Most are set serenely in look-alike middle-income neighborhoods within sight of freeways or within blocks of off-ramps. Almost all were painted shades of yellow.

The attacks were first clustered in the San Gabriel Valley—Arcadia, Monterey Park, Rosemead, Monrovia and Sierra Madre. In August, as law enforcement agencies and Neighborhood Watch groups in those areas were on the alert, the killer ranged further. Murder cases bearing his stamp cropped up along the freeway corridors of the foothills, in Glendale, Northridge, Sun Valley and Diamond Bar. And last week the swath of violence spread to San Francisco.

Here are the victims' stories, as pieced together from interviews with police, relatives and friends.

DAYLE OKAZAKI

Rosemead, March 17

Dayle Okazaki, two weeks shy of her 35th birthday, spent the evening of March 17 at her parents' house, watching a television movie and chatting about her boyfriend and recent promotion to traffic supervisor with Los Angeles County.

Born in Hawaii, the slightly built Miss Okazaki had attended local schools, including Pasadena City College. She was one of three



LOS ANGELES TIMES

sister said. "It just made her happy to make other people happy. Whatever she bought she shared. When she went to the zoo, she bought everyone Panda pins. When she bought a gigantic bag of popcorn on sale, she divided it into 20 small containers to give to friends."

A co-worker recalled, "One time I told her I had to spend the weekend painting my house. Saturday morning she showed up on the doorstep, paint brush in hand."

Miss Okazaki had been taking classes in cake decorating, flower arranging, computer programming and, most recently, self-defense.

Miss Okazaki left her parents' home about 9 p.m. for her own in nearby Rosemead—a new condominium she had saved for several years to buy.

Her mother recalled warning her to drive carefully on the freeway because her car was not in good condition. Shortly after 10:45 p.m., an assailant sneaked into her home through a garage door and shot her several times. Her roommate was wounded in the assault but was able to phone for help.

When Miss Okazaki was buried at Rose Hills Memorial Park, there were so many mourners that additional seating had to be provided outside.

Her mother, who still cries at the mention of her daughter's name, said, "You think it won't happen to you. And when it happens to you, what can you say? It will never go away. The pain."

TSAI-LIAN YU

Monterey Park, March 17

Police say that on the same evening, less than an hour after Miss Okazaki was murdered and less than two miles away in Monterey Park, the same assailant dragged T sai-Lian Yu from her car and shot her repeatedly. He drove away from the lightly traveled, well-lit neighborhood, leaving his victim's car behind.

The 30-year-old student lived with her family in a middle-income neighborhood in Monterey Park.

Family members say her death is still a "very painful subject."

A sister said in Chinese that they did not want to talk about "this misfortune that has visited upon our family."

VINCENT AND MAXINE ZAZZARA

Whittier, March 27

The bodies of Vincent Zazzara, 64, and his wife Maxine, 44, were found by a business acquaintance in their ranch-style Whittier home on the morning of March 29. Zazzara, who was shot in the head, was found lying on the living room couch with a bullet in his head. His wife was found in a bedroom. She had been stabbed to death. The assailant apparently entered through an open door sometime between March 27 and 29.

The Zazzaras had lived in the neighborhood, which abuts the 605 Freeway, for eight years. A retired investment counselor, he was owner of Circus Foods, a Whittier pizza parlor only blocks from his home. He had two daughters, three sons and four grandchildren. Mrs. Zazzara, a Downey attorney, had one daughter. She belonged to several civic organizations and was a member of Trinity Baptist Church in Downey, where she sang in the choir.

"They were very friendly, outgoing people," one neighbor said.

"He was always planting trees. After he moved in, he must have planted 75 of them around his house. He used to laugh about it with me and say he did it 'cause he liked to dig the holes,'" a friend said.

They were buried at Rose Hills Memorial Park, only a block away from their home.

That cemetery also became the final resting place of four other victims of the Valley Intruder.

WILLIAM DOI

Monterey Park, May 14

On the morning of May 13, William DOI, 65, drove to a Ford dealership and placed a down payment on a family van. That afternoon he told neighbors about the vehicle and talked excitedly about touring the state. He suffered a heart attack three years ago, and his wife had suffered a stroke, but both were feeling better and were looking forward to "living it up."

Early the next morning, an assailant crawled through an open window in their Monterey Park home, shot him in the head and assaulted his wife. DOI managed to telephone the emergency 911 number before losing consciousness.

His call, which flashed his address on a police dispatcher's screen as he was dying, saved his wife's life.

DOI, who had recently retired from his job as international sales manager at Santa Fe Trails Trucking Co., grew up in the Salinas Valley. He was placed with other Japanese Americans in an Arizona relocation camp during World War II and later joined the 442nd U.S. Army Regimental Combat Team.

After the war he moved to Chicago, where he attended Northwestern University and worked as a shipping clerk to support his wife and baby. He moved steadily up the corporate ladder and in 1972 moved to California.

A witty and extroverted man, DOI belonged to the East Side Optimist Club. He liked golf and the Los Angeles Lakers and doted on his 4-year-old grandson, taking him to Japanese festivals, carnivals, the beach, his daughter said.

Overhearing her conversation, her son sobbed, "I want my grandpa back. I want my grandpa back."

The Rev. Ken Yamaguchi of the Buddhist Church of San Francisco said he and DOI used to have rambling philosophical conversations.

"He worked hard and loved his Jaguar, Cadillac and nice home. But in spite of all that, he told me several times that we have to share our lives and thoughts with each other," because in the end that's all we really have.

MAX AND LELA KNEIDING

Glendale, July 20

When Max Kneiding, who rarely missed a Saturday service, failed to show up for his deacon duties at the Glendale Seventh-day Adventist Church on July 20, the Rev. Arthur Torres was concerned.

Shortly before he began to preach, Torres was handed a note by an usher: Max and his wife, Lela, had been shot to death.

"I could hardly go on," Torres said. The tragedy hit the congregation hard, he said. "They were angry, they were upset, they had question after question—why would God let this happen to such good people?"

Kneiding, 68, who owned a service station, and Mrs. Kneiding, 66, who worked for the security force at Robinson's department store, had been high school friends in Iowa. They had been married 47 years.

A quiet, hard working man, Kneiding had a streak of the madcap. Friends fondly remember his "Maxburgers" at back yard barbecues, the time he wanted to buy a ghost town and his forays in the stock market.

"Max liked to joke about his 'abstinent' in the market," a friend said. "But he never did lose money. He just got a kick out of buying something at \$2, watching it go up to \$16, then watch it come back down again."

Mrs. Kneiding was a good match for her husband, friends said. She would call a friend for lunch—and drive 100 miles to a new spot. An avid Laker and Dodgers fan, if she had chores or a party when a game was on, she would lug along a portable TV and radio. In her spare time, she played the organ.

The Kneidings' three children and 13 grandchildren were the center of their lives. They left their door unlocked so family members could come and go.

Their assailant walked through the unlocked door.

Two weeks later, Torres took to the pulpit to address the Kneidings' family and friends.

"To try and give a rational explanation for an irrational act is to legitimize it," Torres said. "But we need not mourn as those who have no hope."

JOYCE NELSON

Monterey Park, July 7



Joyce Nelson, a petite 61-year-old Monterey Park grandmother, loved golf and Glenn Miller music. She lived alone in a white-shutted house in a pleasant Monterey Park neighborhood, not far from where William DOI, Dayle Okazaki and T sai-Lian Yu had been murdered.

In the weeks before she died, Nelson and a friend talked about the rash of murders in their community. "I was fussing at her, but she told me that people can't live their lives in fear."

For 32 years, Nelson had worked the production line at Coast Envelope Co. In earlier years, co-workers said, she did cartwheels daily down the aisle before work.

She and a friend, who also

Please see INTRUDER, Page 5

City	High	Low	Wind	Clouds	Humidity	Pressure	Visibility	Remarks
Los Angeles	74	54	10	100	65	30.05	10	Clear
San Francisco	68	48	15	100	60	30.10	10	Clear
San Diego	78	58	12	100	65	30.08	10	Clear
Phoenix	88	68	10	100	40	30.02	10	Clear
Albuquerque	82	62	10	100	35	30.01	10	Clear
Denver	72	52	10	100	45	30.03	10	Clear
Chicago	62	42	10	100	55	30.04	10	Clear
New York	52	32	10	100	65	30.06	10	Clear
London	42	22	10	100	75	30.07	10	Clear
Paris	32	12	10	100	85	30.08	10	Clear
Moscow	22	2	10	100	95	30.09	10	Clear
U.S. Average	65	45	10	100	60	30.05	10	Clear

Reports and Forecasts From Across the Nation

Los Angeles Times

THE WEATHER

Part II / Sunday, August 25, 1985 ***

INTRUDER: The Stories of Killer's 14 Victims

Continued from Page 1

worked at Coast, planned to retire next year so they could spend more time playing golf.

She spent hours helping friends and family with chores and teaching her grandchildren how to play Scrabble. The week before she died, she went shopping with her 13-year-old granddaughter. The last time her family saw her was July 4, when she shared a big bag of fireworks.

On the night of July 6, she fell asleep on the couch watching television. Hours later, an assailant crawled through a window and bludgeoned her to death.

Several neighbors later told police that around 3 a.m. they had heard a dog barking, bushes rustling and a scream.

CHAINARONG KHOVANANTH

Sun Valley, July 20



The last time Chainarong Khovananth's sister saw her brother alive was on her daughter's birthday.

"He had been to Mexico and brought her back a beautiful leather jacket. He loved her like he did his own," she said tearfully.

Khovananth, a 32-year-old parking attendant who immigrated from Thailand 10 years ago, lived with his wife and two children in a small frame house that abuts a freeway in Sun Valley.

A quiet, friendly man, Khovananth loved to spend hours in his yard gardening.

An assailant stalked through that garden around 6 a.m. July 20, entering the house and fatally shooting Khovananth. He then tied up and beat Khovananth's wife, Somkid, and his 8-year-old son. Both survived. A 2½-year-old daughter slept through the ordeal and was not harmed. Khovananth was buried with a deck of playing cards at his side, relatives said.

"He loved blackjack," his sister explained. "But it wasn't really the card game he liked. It was being with his family, friends... making them happy."

MABEL BELL

Monrovia, May 29

Mabel Bell, 84, and her invalid sister, Florence Lang, 81, had spent the last 25 years in the modest home framed with roses and a white picket fence on the outskirts of Monrovia.

Living high above the San Gabriel Valley on a lonely winding

road, they had only one close neighbor. Bell liked it that way, but her relatives worried.

Born in Kentucky, Ma Bell, as her family called her, moved to California 35 years ago. Widowed at an early age, she worked as a secretary for Vernon Tool Co. to support her two children. Mrs. Bell, not wishing her invalid sister to be institutionalized, took her into her home.

She was the center of the family, which included 12 grandchildren. Two of those she helped through college.

Although Mrs. Bell's health was deteriorating, she still drove her own car and played bridge several times a week.

Every year she sent a contribution to a fund to keep the Statue of Liberty in good condition.

"On one side she was the very practical business woman, on the other, a warm caring person," said a grandson, his voice hoarse with emotion. "I still can't talk about her."

Some time between May 29 and June 1, an assailant entered the home through an unlocked door and viciously beat both women. On the morning of June 1, a gardener, suspicious because of their open door, entered the tiny house and found the battered women lying in their bedrooms.

Mrs. Bell, whom friends called a "gutsy, independent old lady," clung to life for six weeks after the brutal assault but died of massive body trauma July 15.

Her sister survived, but relatives said she can no longer speak and will be hospitalized indefinitely.

PATTY ELAINE HIGGINS

Arcadia, June 27

The first time the Monrovia School District's personnel director met Patty Elaine Higgins, she could not imagine how the quiet "frail-looking wisp of a woman" could possibly handle a roomful of aggressive special education students.

"But we found she had a confidence, inner spirit and strength that was amazing," the director said. "She spent a great deal of time, energy and dedication on her job."

Miss Higgins, 32, grew up in a small town near Pittsburgh. After graduating from college, she became a counselor for emotionally disturbed boys and later taught disabled students in Virginia.

She moved to California in 1979.

"Few people knew her well," one friend said. "She wasn't one that told life secrets the first time she met someone. But she had some very close friends who were very special to her."

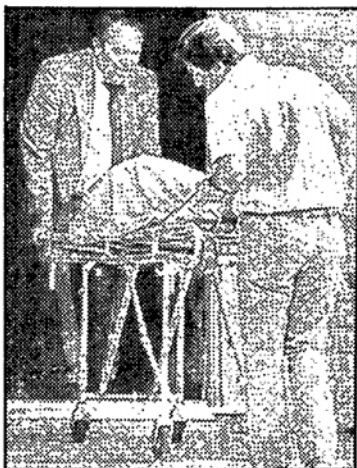
On June 27, she worked late at Bradoaks School, decorating her room and getting ready for summer school.

She apparently arrived at mid-evening at the bungalow in Arcadia that she shared with her pet cocker spaniel. She had no next-door neighbors because her house stands between a real estate office and a construction site on a dimly lit street near Santa Anita Park. Higgins did not show up at school on July 2, and co-workers, concerned that she might be ill, asked a friend to check on her.

He found her partially clad body in the bathroom. Her throat had been slashed. Police believe that the murder occurred June 27 or 28.

ELYAS ABOWATH

Diamond Bar, Aug. 8



The house perched on a hillside cul-de-sac in a relatively new neighborhood in Diamond Bar was not fenced and was poorly lit, police said. The murder took place about 4 a.m. Aug. 8.

Elyas Abowath, 35, was shot in the head shortly after the killer entered the house through an open door. His wife, Sakina, 28, was then assaulted. The two children were unharmed, and it was the 3-year-old son who went next door to tell neighbors, "Daddy isn't feeling well." Abowath was a Pakistani immigrant who worked for a computer company. He and his wife sometimes joined in barbecue parties at their neighbor's home.

In the aftermath of the tragedy, many area residents have barred their doors, locked their windows and have held slumber parties and all-night vigils to help them deal with the long hours before day.

"They were wonderful people; we won't say anymore," said close friends. "We're afraid to talk. So is the family."

MARY LOUISE CANNON

Arcadia, July 2

Mary Louise Cannon, 75, a widow, lived in Arcadia, less than two miles from where Miss Higgins was murdered.

Her husband died two years ago, and she had fought off two bouts of cancer. But she was an independent woman who had the strength to rebound.

Born on a farm near Downey, Cannon attended business school and married Darrel Cannon, a local horse trainer, and kept books for their business.

Mrs. Cannon, who enjoyed needlepoint, her roses and visiting

with her five granddaughters, had recently redecorated her house with new carpeting and furniture. She was looking forward to a trip to Australia with a senior citizens' group.

On July 1, she was in a minor traffic accident. Her car was damaged, and a police officer gave her a ride home.

The next morning a neighbor went into her house after finding that a screen had been pulled off a front window. He called police after he found belongings strewn about the place.

Police found Mrs. Cannon in the back of the house, with her throat slit.

Two months later, her son said that the horror of the murder really hit when he visited the house. "I saw all the fingerprint powder all over the walls and large chunks of her new carpeting dug up by police as evidence."

PETER PAN

San Francisco, Aug. 17

"I can fly," Peter Pan told new acquaintances with a straight face when repeatedly quizzed about the similarity between his name and that of the story book character.

Pan, 66, who was born in Taiwan, attended the Wharton School in Philadelphia. He returned to Taiwan and worked for a railroad firm and later moved to Hong Kong, where he opened an import-export business.

Peter and Barbara Pan immigrated to California 16 years ago.

He enjoyed gardening. "He told me it was meditation for him," a friend said.

Pan "was the first to arrive for work in the morning... was a hard-worker who did his job without complaint and got along well with co-workers," his boss said.

He kept a photograph of his 3-year-old granddaughter on his desk.

During the night of Aug. 17, an intruder entered the Pans' home in the Lakeside District of San Francisco through an unlocked window.

Pan and his wife, 64, were both shot in the head. They were found the next morning by one of their three children, who stopped by for a visit. Pan had died of his wounds. His wife, a bank clerk, is in stable condition at San Francisco General Hospital, where for 16 years her husband worked as an accountant.

"He was very proud to be an American," a friend said. "He always talked about how valuable freedom is."

He added: "He was a pacifist. He hated violence."

Callers bombard police with tips and questions on the Night Stalker

Some ways to make yourself safe from would-be intruders

Whether this recent spate of killings, rapes and assaults in the San Fernando and San Gabriel valleys is the work of one individual or a number of individuals, one fact remains alarmingly clear: Gone are the days when we can keep our doors and windows unlocked and still feel safe. But what are we supposed to do? Bamcane ourselves in? Arm ourselves? Well, according to John Carroll, vice president of Wild Wing Productions, the maker of the video "Principles of Home Defense," we'd better do something, or else possibly suffer the consequences. Carroll, a reserve deputy sheriff for the last 2½ years, was interviewed by Herald staff writer Milton McGriff.

Question: When did you create the video "Principles of Home Defense," and why?

Carroll: Well, it was created by Drew Michaels. He had the idea. When he and I and Bill Keyes were going through the Sheriff's Academy, we were trying to be reserve sheriffs, we were all in the movie industry and we discussed the project, because a lot of the things we learned in the Sheriff's Academy we realized were going to be very valuable to us, not only as reserve sheriffs, but in our home lives as well. So we pursued the idea of creating a tape based on home defense.

Q: Essentially, what is the video?

A: It is a cassette designed to teach the average citizen how he can choose not to be a victim, and how he can defend himself, his family and his home. We teach a person what not to do, then what to do in handling an assailant in the home.

Q: What response have you had from law enforcement officials?

A: We heard from the LAPD that they are showing it in their neighborhood watch programs. The same thing with the sheriff's department. We are going to donate 21 tapes to the different stations and they are going to show it in what they call their community service slot, which is their equivalent of the Neighborhood Watch program.

Q: How many law enforcement

Q&A

Q: Some people think that a home is less safe with a handgun around, especially if there are children around.

A: That's an individual choice. Some people like to have a handgun around the home, a lot of people don't — either way is fine. It is an individual choice.

Q: Having a handgun around implies an awesome responsibility of properly caring for a weapon.

A: Well, if you are not going to get the proper training for a gun, and properly look after it, and practice, then I suggest that you don't get one. If you are going to make the decision that you are going to keep a gun in your house, and that is a big decision, then you'd better get the proper training, know how to handle it. Because if you don't, the chances are that the guy could take it off you.

Q: How many homes do have handguns now?

A: The last statistic I had was that there are over 60 million handguns in the United States. I would imagine a good guess is that 80 percent of those are for home protection.

Q: What suggestions do you have for home defense for the person who refuses to have a loaded gun in their home?

A: That's fine. But still have a home defense plan that if somebody does break into your home, they'll encounter a deadbolt on your bedroom door. That's the last line of defense. You can lock the door and they can't come in and hurt you. If they come in and steal something out of your house, that's fine. Let them take it. Police will get them later. But at least you are not going to get into a confrontation. If you can avoid a confrontation, do so. If they decide they want to attack you, then you should have some sort of defense or else you are going to be a victim.

A: That's where we come in with a very strong statement in our video which says that it is your choice to be a victim. You decide. If someone



"We come in with a very strong statement in our video which says that it is your choice to be a victim. If someone comes at you, it is your decision if you are going to take it lying down or if you are going to fight back."

John Carroll

it only happens to someone else, when it happens to you, it is too late. You should take precautions. Anybody who leaves their doors and windows unlocked at night is asking for trouble.

Q: What does a reserve deputy sheriff do?

A: Basically, we work in different fields. Some work on patrol. At times, we are assigned to the photo reserve company. We are assigned, mainly because of our expertise in the movie industry, to make officer survival training films. We take an incident where maybe a deputy sheriff was killed and maybe it was his own fault that

But authorities say they're no closer to finding killer

By Mark S. Wornick
Herald staff writer

Law enforcement officers continuing their search for a brutal serial killer again were bombarded with telephone calls from helpful, frightened residents yesterday, but authorities said they were no closer to finding the man who has terrorized parts of Los Angeles County.

"The tips haven't led to anything as of yet," said Sheriff's Capt. William R. Hinkle.

Six agencies, including the sheriff's department, are searching for the so-called Night Stalker, who enters darkened homes through unlocked doors or windows. The man has been linked to at least 14 recent attacks, including seven murders.

He could be responsible for as many as 30 attacks since February, most recently the rape and beating of an 84-year-old woman in San Gabriel early Sunday, according to police.

The sheriff's department's Temple City station, in whose jurisdiction Sunday's attack occurred, was among the offices flooded with calls.

"It's been quite hectic," Lt. Volker Niewisch said. "The concern is very real."

Many callers have told authorities that they believe they have spotted the suspect. Others have asked for advice on how to secure

their homes and how to comfort frightened relatives, Niewisch said.

"We had one woman who was unable to calm down her daughter, who is 19 and lives at home," Niewisch said. "All we can do is tell people the basics. Keep your doors and windows locked, even if it's warm and uncomfortable and you need to use a fan or air conditioning."

In Monterey Park, where police are investigating several attacks that may be linked to the Night Stalker, officers yesterday reported heightened awareness throughout the community. Some residents are staying overnight at friends' homes and some children are sleeping in their parents' bedroom, said David Riser, a reserve officer with the Monterey Park Police Department.

In the approximately 30 cases being investigated, no pattern has as yet emerged regarding weapons, victims or days of attack. The only common denominators are that the suspect entered each house through an unlocked door or window and that all of the residences had poor, if any, outside lighting.

A composite drawing of the suspect, based on descriptions provided by surviving victims, has been distributed throughout Southern California. The killer was described as white, possibly Hispanic, age 25 to 30, about 6 feet tall, with dark, curly hair and gapped, very discolored teeth.



Police are seeking suspect who resembles this sketch in Night Stalker cases.

"All we can do is tell people the basics. Keep your doors and windows locked, even if it's warm and uncomfortable and you need to use a fan or air conditioning."

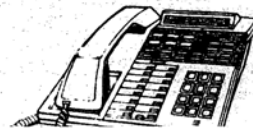
Lt. Volker Niewisch

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video?

A: I know the LAPD is, I think the San Fernando P.D. is. We have had some inquiries from a place in Illinois. It's something that we haven't really pursued at this stage, going after the P.D.s, but we will. I think the program is very pro-law enforcement.

Q: Have you shown the video to any neighborhood groups?

A: We haven't, but we have shown it to the L.A. Commission on Assaults Against Women, and to our bank, the Warner Bank in Woodland Hills. They were very impressed with the program and they asked us to come in early one Monday morning and show it to all of their employees.

Q: Does the video suggest that it's a good idea to have a handgun in the home?

A: We're not advocating handguns, and we're not saying not to use them. If a person decides he wants a handgun in the home, then the proper training and practice is essential.

you are going to take it lying down or if you are going to fight back. And we suggest that you fight back.

Q: How much would it cost to make the average home reasonably secure?

A: It can be done with an elaborate alarm system, or you can get these small portable alarms that fit on the door, and they cost only about \$40. You can, depending on how much security you want, spend from \$100 up to several thousand.

Q: The so-called Night Stalker is very much in the news. Most of his victims have had unlocked windows or doors. Does that surprise you?

A: No. There are a lot of people who just live in the it-can't-happen-to-me syndrome. That's a wrong attitude. You have to make a plan. It's like people saying there's not going to be an earthquake. In 1971, there was a hell of an earthquake. People say, "There's not going to be a fire," and there are fires all the time. The same thing with crime. And if you go through life thinking

made a mistake. So we make a film pointing out what actually happened, and then we show what he should have done. We show that to all the cadets going through the academy, all the officers. It is also sold to different law enforcement agencies across the country, hopefully so that other officers will not make the same mistake.

Q: Are reserve deputies volunteers?

A: Yes. Strictly volunteers. We are paid a dollar a year. On average, the deputy reserve would put in between 400 and 600 hours a year.

Q: Is there any advice that you would give to people in the Los Angeles area to protect themselves against this so-called Night Stalker?

A: Lock your doors and windows at night. Make, in your own mind, a defense plan that if you do hear a noise in your house, decide what you are going to do, because if you don't, it's too late.

— edited by Mitchell Fink

With their porch lights on and dander up, Americans have 'Night Out' against crime

Associated Press

With porch lights as their symbol, a jazzy theme song and police support, neighborhood groups across the nation prepared for today's National Night Out anti-crime effort, aiming to show muggers and thieves "we're mad and fighting back."

Police officers were to be guests of honor at a block picnic in New Jersey and a balloon release was planned in Minnesota to mark the second year of the symbolic demonstration against crime.

Thousands from Oregon to New York state planned simply to spend a nighttime hour on their illuminated front porches.

"The whole idea is, each neighbor knows that other neighbors care," said Sgt. Robert Lassahn of the police crime resistance unit in Baltimore, where 8,000 households were expected to participate.

In Detroit, Police Chief William L. Hart wrote 41 citizen/radio patrol groups and 5,000 block clubs, asking members to join the sit-out as a "show of solidarity against crime."

"Night Out is a symbolic demonstration that will let criminals know that we're mad and fighting back," said Matt Peskin of the National

Association of Town Watch, based in Wynnewood, Pa., which organized the effort.

Peskin said last year 23 communities participated in the Night Out, and he expects that figure to more than triple today.

Despite a recent series of slayings by a suspected serial killer in the Los Angeles area, there were no local Night Out observances planned.

Officials from the Los Angeles Police Department and the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department said they knew of no plans to participate in the event.

"We haven't heard anything

about it," said LAPD spokesman Willie Wilson.

Sheriff's Deputy Steve Lee said, "We used to have a program in the '60s similar to this one called 'Burn a Light,' but as far as I know there is nothing like that going on now."

New York City will participate for the first time, with community groups holding flashlight parades and prayer vigils. Police Commissioner Benjamin Ward called on city residents to "take back their community themselves."

In Dover, Del., the Robbins Hose Fire Co. plans to blow a whistle when the Night Out vigil officially begins at 8 p.m.

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THE ORANGE COUNTY
Register

25 CENTS

SEPTEMBER 6, 1985

FRIDAY EVENING

Ramirez may have been seen before OC attack

By Lennie LaGuire
and Jeffrey Brody
The Register

■ 'LOW KEY': Defense lawyer gets praise from colleagues/A16

Richard Ramirez, suspect in a string of 15 so-called "night stalker" slayings, had close brushes with the law hours before and after the killer's last known attack in Mission Viejo, officials said Thursday.

About 30 survivors and witnesses to "night stalker" attacks, meanwhile, assembled Thursday night at the central jail in Los Angeles to view police lineups that included Ramirez and to examine property police believe he stole.

Orange County Sheriff Brad Gates said 13-year-old James Romero III had notified deputies of a prowler walking along the side of

his garage in Mission Viejo at 1:30 a.m. Aug. 25, just an hour and 10 minutes before authorities were notified of the brutal attack on William Carns and his girlfriend about a mile away at their Chrisanta Drive home.

Gates said the deputies responded to the call — made by the boy's father — within four minutes and took a routine prowler report. The brown-haired eighth-grader was able to provide a description of the orange car and a partial license plate number — information that later was crucial in linking the suspect to the Mission Viejo attack.

Please see **SUSPECT/A16**

SUSPECT

FROM A1

The next day, a Los Angeles police officer stopped Ramirez for driving a motorcycle without a license, according to Los Angeles Police Chief Daryl Gates. Ramirez used an alias and had not been named yet as a suspect in the string of attacks, Gates said. The police officer did not recognize Ramirez from composite drawings of the man known as the "night stalker."

Ramirez, 25, was arrested Saturday after residents of the East Los Angeles community of Boyle Heights captured him after he allegedly tried to steal a car.

Tuesday, he was arraigned on a murder charge in the killing of a Monterey Park businessman, and he has been named in a murder complaint filed in San Francisco. Additional charges are to be filed soon, according to prosecutors.

In Los Angeles, authorities said 30 witnesses and survivors were present for the lineup, but a participant said about 70 other burglary victims also came to the jail to identify property on display.

The items, displayed on three long tables in a conference room at the jail, were about 2,000 individual pieces of jewelry, including pearls, ivory necklaces and watches. There were also a number of videocassette tapes, including "Escape from Alcatraz."

Los Angeles sheriff's spokesman Lt. Richard Walls said the property was recovered in El Paso, Texas, Ramirez's hometown, as well as in San Francisco and the Los Angeles area. He said some of the material was recovered with search warrants, but most was brought forward by people who said they either bought it from Ramirez or received it from him as a gift.

Walls would not say whether any identifications, either of Ramirez or of the property, had been made as of Thursday night.

Walls was asked to assess the emotional effect Thursday night's sessions had on the survivors.

"If you can imagine the most distraught, painful experience, it's going on in there right now, I'll tell you," Walls said, standing outside the jail.

Ramirez's identity was made public for the first time Thursday at a news conference. Sheriff Gates called the boy's tip "the most important information out of 2,000 phone calls" on the case.



Associated Press

James Romero III, left, of Mission Viejo, after receiving an award from Sheriff Brad Gates for reporting the license of a car seen near a "night stalker" attack. Above, Gov. George Deukmejian honors East Los Angeles residents Angelina and Manuel de la Torre, left, and Jaime Burgoin, for their help in capturing "stalker" suspect Richard Ramirez.



Pat Tehan/The Register

Gates said there was no pursuit of the car seen by Romero because deputies did not have enough information at that time.

"We didn't know what we were looking for," Gates said. "How could we have a chase?"

He said deputies began "standard investigative processes" after talking to the boy, which included calling state officials in Sacramento for possible matches to the car, and trying to determine whether any similar cars had been reported stolen.

Gates said he could not pinpoint the precise time at which the connection between the car and the attack was made. Previously, officials have said that Orange County authorities put out a bulletin on the

car at 5:30 a.m. on Aug. 25, asking all Southern California law-enforcement agencies to be on the lookout for the 1976 orange Toyota station wagon.

Orange County Sheriff's Lt. Richard Olson said Romero would be an important witness in the case and the sheriff did not want the boy to talk to the media about it. He also said the family had been under protective custody until the "night stalker" was caught.

The Romero family said after the news conference that they had been instructed by sheriff's officials not to talk about the case.

Romero, who was in his home, tinkering with his motorbike when he heard the prowler, had only this to say about spotting the car: "I just saw it and I did what I could to get it."

Romero said he had not thought the car connection would lead to a break in the "night stalker" case.

"I feel like a hero," he said after receiving his gifts: a three-wheel motorbike from the sheriff, about \$4,500 in cash from the Sheriff's Advisory Council and other private donors, a bicycle helmet and two plaques from the Sheriff's Advisory

Council and the Orange County Sheriff-Coroner's Department.

Gates also said he has written a letter to Los Angeles authorities, requesting that Romero receive some of the reward money offered there.

Romero lives with his parents, James and Emily, and his sister, Lisa. His father came to California in 1952.

"James is a hero of Orange County who has helped us sleep a little bit safer the last few days," Gates said.

After the news conference, Mrs. Romero said that her son's report of the prowler was not the first time he had done something like this. About a year ago, he saw a pickup truck parked outside, and some men trying to steal things from in back of the house. The boy ran outside yelling, and the men left, she said.

His father, a civilian worker at the Marine Corps Air Station at El Toro, said the car sighting was at first treated like a routine prowler case — "until afterward."

Register staff writers Edward Humes and Forest Kimler contributed to this report.

Unwelcome notoriety for 'low-key' defender

By Dan Welkel
The Register

LOS ANGELES — His friends and colleagues at the Public Defender's Office say Allen R. Adashek is a "low-key," businesslike attorney who has never sought publicity during his 16-year career.

But this summer publicity found the 42-year-old defense lawyer in the form of Richard Ramirez, accused of the so-called "night stalker" slayings.

Since Adashek was appointed two days ago to defend the 25-year-old drifter, his office telephone has not stopped ringing.

"It's probably the press," Adashek said as his phone rang for the fourth time during a short office interview.

Instead of answering it, he let it ring until a secretary took a message. On his desk Adashek fingered through messages from ABC News, the Los Angeles Herald Examiner, the Los Angeles Times and other media requesting interviews.

"I haven't been able to get back to any of them," he said. "The telephone calls just don't stop."

Adashek did not seem comfortable in the limelight. To him it is a distraction that keeps him from preparing a proper defense for Ramirez.

Partly because of this attitude, Adashek was handpicked for the high-profile case by his boss, Public Defender Wilbur Littlefield, who says he considered a list of 40 deputy public defenders before settling on Adashek.

"He has done a good job for us. He is well-organized and has handled death penalty cases before," Littlefield said. "He doesn't get excited and has a good sense of humor."

Adashek was hired by the Public Defender's Office upon graduation from UCLA Law School in 1969. He was assigned to the central felony trial division, where he has remained for 16 years handling some of the office's more serious, although not necessarily high profile, cases.

Over the years, his colleagues and supervisors say, he has developed a reputation for professionalism and doing the best he can for

his clients.

"He is very professional," said Deputy Public Defender Stuart Rappaport, Adashek's former supervisor now in charge of 220 attorneys assigned to the county's branch courts.

"Adashek does not encourage notoriety," Rappaport said. "He's not looking to get his name in the paper. He's a self-deprecating individual and a good guy at putting down pomposity. Adashek will always take care of business."

Business in this case means Ramirez, who is charged with one count of murder and seven other felony counts stemming from two attacks in the San Gabriel Valley in early May.

Ramirez also is suspected in 14 other slayings and numerous assaults from San Francisco to Mission Viejo. Los Angeles County, Orange County and San Francisco authorities expect to file more charges as their investigations continue.

Adashek, who has decorated his office wall with the bright fingerprints of his son, said he is treating the Ramirez case like other serious cases he has handled.

"Basically the job is the same for this case as for others," Adashek said. "I keep my personal feelings out of it and represent the client the best I can whether it's a misdemeanor or a multiple felony case."

Although he says it is too early to decide on a legal strategy, Adashek is concerned about the publicity Ramirez has received and the possible affect it might have on getting a fair trial in Los Angeles.

"Pretrial publicity is a big concern in this type of thing," Adashek said.

Because he says he still is reading police reports and talking with Ramirez, Adashek declined to discuss whether he will ask to move the case to another area of the state where there has been less media attention.

Also, he says, there has been a problem with crank calls from people who want to tell their personal feelings about the Ramirez case. Adashek did not want to elaborate.

"I'm trying to take it a day at a time and take things as they come," Adashek said. "That's all I can do."

Search for 'night stalker' brought out our best

By Glen G. Costin

We are often confronted with situations in which various elements of our society are at loggerheads, in adversarial positions, uncooperative, or, at the least, totally uncaring and indifferent. In the case of the "night stalker" terror, we witnessed an exemplary demonstration of cooperation among law-enforcement agencies, news media and the public.

To an outsider, this seems to be an instance in which several jurisdictions of police and sheriff's officers worked together in remarkable harmony and effectiveness. Their joint decision to release the suspect's identity and photograph to news media, while withholding other details, proved a wise option, with immediate and dramatic results.

Throughout this ordeal, they have patiently dealt with thousands of citizens who called with questions, tips and suggestions and then spent thousands of man-hours following every lead with even remote possibilities of credibility.

Meanwhile, pursuing clues from crime scenes and their own leads, their dogged

One needs only to witness the sense of accomplishment and waves of pride that rolled over the area to realize that this was an event of compelling magnitude to its residents.

investigation and plain old-fashioned legwork finally revealed the suspect's name.

The news media, as well, turned in a commendable performance. While at times it may have seemed that a disproportionate amount of space and time, particularly on television, was devoted to this topic, one must recognize the magnitude of the monstrous criminal rampage and the subzero chill factor inflicted upon millions of Californians.

While the pleas and attitudes of law-enforcement officials practically deputized the citizens of this state, it was the news media who carried the message, in a steady, pervasive insistence that security be strengthened, the composite drawing of the suspect be imprinted upon every brain, and vigilance maintained.

Once identity was established and a photograph provided, the numbing night-

mare of the pursuit was swiftly brought to a dramatic end by aroused citizens.

Although the capture was initiated by a man unaware of the suspect's identity, the neighborhood was already electric with the excitement of the chase that began when he bolted from a store where his picture was prominently displayed on newspapers.

Spotters quickly alerted police with a succession of phone calls pinpointing locations on his route of attempted escape. That fateful chase exemplified, in a few alarm-filled but exhilarating moments, a capacity for notable achievement in the cooperation of police, press and public.

One needs only to witness the sense of accomplishment and waves of pride that rolled over the area to realize that this was an event of compelling magnitude to its residents. Perhaps never before have their feelings of neighborhood and neigh-

borliness been so acute and satisfying, as evidenced by their streets - roped - off block parties and proud "hosting" of visitors from the outlands, who came to toast the new heroes.

It is interesting to speculate on the improvement that would be realized if this multilevel cooperation against criminality could continue, spread nationwide, and escalate. How effective would a dedicated, intensive citizenry be if it *really* concentrated on helping to solve the problem of missing children? How much could the crime rate be reduced if everyone were externally vigilant, the media pillars of responsibility, and law enforcers models of cooperation?

Alas, there are already signs and portents of a recession from glory — relaxed security, arguments as to shares of credit for breaking the case, and disputes over the dispensing of rewards. But I don't wish to hear or think about these things for a moment. I want to savor deep reflections on that "One Brief Shining Hour."

Costin is a free-lance writer who lives in Santa Ana Heights.

T H E O R A N G E C O U N T Y

Register

WEDNESDAY EVENING

SEPTEMBER 4, 1985

25 CENTS

South Africa

A fair trial in 'night stalker' case may be a big hurdle, experts say

Robert E. Kroll
The Register

Hunting for the so-called "night stalker" may prove to have been a cakewalk compared to the potential pitfalls of trying the man accused of the deadly, nocturnal crime spree.

The trial of Richard Ramirez, who was arrested in Los Angeles on Saturday in connection with the "night stalker" serial killings, could be as fraught with problems of fairness and legal booby traps as the Manson Family and "Onion Field" murder cases, legal experts said.

Ramirez was arraigned Tuesday

■ **PROSECUTOR:** He says he's never lost 'a heavy one'/A8

■ **COMPUTER:** It may soon help solve thousands of cases a year/A9

in Los Angeles on eight felony counts, including one murder charge. While Ramirez faces serious problems finding an impartial jury because of the avalanche of publicity, the state may have problems getting crucial eyewitness testimony admitted at trial for the same reason, lawyers said.

Bringing Ramirez, 25, to trial for the 14 killings and 18 assaults attributed to the "night stalker" could be a costly, time-consuming

and nearly impossible task, because of what lawyers call prejudicial pretrial publicity and the unequivocal public accusations against him by investigators, criminal lawyers said Tuesday.

"For them to say he's the one is so astonishingly indifferent to (his) right of fair trial," said Bernard L. Segal, a criminal law professor at Golden Gate University in San Francisco.

"No one anointed them (police detectives) to be the deciders," he said. "It has created problems within problems. It made it hundreds of times worse than it had to be."

Please see TRIAL/A8

1st charges filed in 'stalker' case

The sister of Richard Ramirez, suspect in the so-called "night stalker" case, said Tuesday that he has told his family in El Paso, Texas, that he is innocent of the five-month string of serial slayings. But she said the recent conversation seemed "psychotic" and was tinged with hysteria.

Ramirez, 25, who was arrested Saturday, was formally charged Tuesday in Los Angeles in connection with two of the 34 cases that have been linked to the "night stalker." The charges include murder and seven other felony counts.

Please see story A9

Prosecutor says he's never lost 'a heavy one'

By Carroll Lachnit
The Register

LOS ANGELES — Deputy District Attorney P. Philip Halpin claims not to keep track of courtroom wins and losses, but he does say he has never lost "a heavy one."

The 21-year veteran of the Los Angeles District Attorney's Office has been selected to prosecute Richard Ramirez, the man suspected in the so-called "night stalker" slayings.

For more than a month, Halpin, 48, has been working with the task force assigned to finding the "night stalker" and building a case.

Halpin was assigned to the case July 27 because he is an "intelligent no-nonsense, aggressive" prosecutor who is "very successful" in murder cases, said Gil Garcetti, chief deputy district attorney.

"He is just a premier trial lawyer," Garcetti said.

For the past two years, Halpin has been a member of the special trials division, which is staffed by the district attorney's best trial

lawyers. The division handles complex cases, usually murder cases, frequently cases with multiple victims, Garcetti said.

Los Angeles County Public Defender Wilbur Littlefield, whose office is defending Ramirez, agreed on Halpin's qualities.

"He's a fine lawyer, a hardworking guy and very ethical," Littlefield said. "They made a good choice."

For his part, Halpin downplays his abilities and success.

"I never kept track of wins and losses. I've lost cases. But never a heavy one. My primary asset is durability," he said.

"It's a routine job. There's nothing exciting about it. If you do it right, it's a lot of hard work."

Halpin said he is bolstering himself for a long, complicated, draining trial. He has scheduled a flu shot, ordered new reading glasses and is prepared to take the prosecution "one day at a time," hoping to build a case that is clear to a jury and that can withstand appeals.

Halpin said he does not get emotionally involved, even in some of the most heinous murder cases.

"I don't involve myself with the person — the suspect. It's just someone there to me. I don't try to intimidate them and I won't be intimidated by them. They're just part of the process. They may think they're at the center, but they're not."

Halpin said one case tested his dispassion.

"I tried a guy who had killed four people in three days and he murdered a 19-year-old girl, just laid her on the floor and shot her in the head. It was hard for me to get that to the jury. She was about the age of my older daughter. It was very difficult, but I had to just go forward."

Charles English, a defense attorney, remembers a less serene Halpin from more than a decade ago.

"He lost his temper a couple times," English said. "He'd yell at me, 'Your client is a scumball.'"

"I'd only say it if it was true," Halpin said with a shrug. "I'm not as tough as I used to be. I try to take it easy on defense attorneys, although sometimes they're so aggravating you have to land on them."

"Our biggest problem in criminal cases in Los Angeles is expediency, so I try to be helpful, sometimes, just to get the case going."

Halpin would not discuss details of the most recent murder cases he has prosecuted because they are still in progress. And he said he has largely forgotten the details of 21 years of such cases.

He even dislikes discussing his role in his best-known case: lead prosecutor in the second trying of the "Onion Field" case.

During the second trial, Halpin successfully gained convictions of Jimmy Lee Smith and Gregory Ulas Powell for the murder of a Los Angeles police officer in an onion field near Bakersfield in 1963.

"I'm so tired of that by now," he said.

But he said he had read Joseph Wambaugh's book about the case and found the author's description of him accurate for the man of that time: a 29-year-old "kid" attorney.

Halpin talks about his work with a degree of weariness, perhaps, he said, because of how long he has been doing it.

"I look at it as a kind of self-

destruction, but one you get pleasure out of," he said. "The satisfaction is that somebody has to do it and these are dangerous people we're dealing with."

In the "night stalker" case, "we are dealing with a person taking lives and holding a huge number of people in fear," he said.

"Men, women and children have been terrified in the last couple months. My job is to attempt to remedy that—I don't care how it's done, whether the death penalty or long-term incarceration."

Halpin's single-mindedness is reflected by his bare office, decorated only in old newspapers, stacked cardboard boxes and law books. He also has no hobbies — except "sporadic" reading of such crime and spy novelists as Wambaugh, John Le Carre and Lawrence Sanders.

Halpin earned his undergraduate and law degrees from UCLA and worked briefly after law school in a real estate finance firm that he had helped start while a law student.

"But there was an element of lack of meaning to it," he said.

AC/DC band is scheduled for concert in OC

The Register

AC/DC, the English band whose lyrics have been cited in connection with Richard Ramirez, the suspect in the so-called "night stalker" slayings, is scheduled to perform later this month in Orange County.

As part of a nationwide concert swing, the heavy-metal quintet will appear at the Pacific Amphitheatre in Costa Mesa Sept. 21. Tickets go on sale Monday at 10 a.m.

"It's pure coincidence," amphitheater spokeswoman Laura Gold said about the timing of ticket sales. "We've been discussing the concert date since Aug. 1 and with the date less than three weeks away we needed to put it on sale."

TRIAL: Massive publicity and accusations by investigators could become stumbling blocks

FROM A1

Segal added: "It's guaranteed to cause a monumental problem to prevent a legalized lynching. We ought not to permit this kind of cavalcade of publicity to take place."

One lawyer who has been through a trial with many of the same perils is Irving Kanarek. He represented Jimmy Lee Smith, who was convicted of the 1963 killing of a Los Angeles police officer. The case was made famous by Joseph Wambaugh in his book "The Onion Field."

Smith and his co-defendant, Greg Ulas Powell, went through two trials over seven years in a case that became a symbol of the maddening complexities of the

American criminal justice system.

The death sentence on the pair was reduced later to a life term. Smith was paroled in 1982 but quickly re-imprisoned for allegedly violating his parole by using illegal drugs.

"You have freedom of the press, but on the other hand, you have people lynched. (This) is like a media event. This guy will never get a fair trial," Kanarek said.

Because all the crimes that Ramirez is accused of committing occurred in this state, Ramirez must be tried somewhere in California, Segal said. But he could ask to have the trial moved to any county where the prospective jurors would be less likely to have formed

biases against him.

"The newspapers have declared him to be the killer," said Henry McGee, a UCLA law professor. "They have convicted him and wrapped up the case." McGee suggested that the trial be held in Willets, a remote, Northern California community.

"The judge will have a difficult task, to weigh cost of trying someone who is undoubtedly guilty against the need for a fair trial," McGee said, then laughed when he caught himself convicting the suspect.

"The state would pay an enormous amount to prove a man can have a fair trial," he said.

"There are going to be problems," said Los Angeles County Public Defender Wilbur Littlefield, whose office was on standby awaiting an appointment to represent Ramirez. He said the only potential jurors who would not have heard about the case would be people who had been backpacking in the Sierras or the Alps.

But Richard Schwartzberg, a deputy Orange County public defender, said Ramirez's case was no different from the trials of Charles Manson or Sirhan Sirhan, who was convicted of the 1968 killing of the Democratic presidential candidate Robert Kennedy.

"In each case, the state Supreme

Court denied (change of) venue motions on the theory that Los Angeles County is so large and multifaceted you can find 12 people who don't listen to television, read newspapers," Schwartzberg said. "Whether those are the kind of jurors you'd want is another question."

Orange County Public Defender Ron Butler said it was possible his office would be appointed to represent Ramirez if he's charged with the Aug. 25 attack on William Carns and the sexual assault of his girlfriend in Mission Viejo. Schwartzberg said Ramirez faced enough jail time in the Los Angeles

County cases alone that it would be gratuitous to bring him to trial in Orange County as well.

The widespread publication and broadcast of photographs of the gap-toothed Ramirez on Saturday, which led to his quick capture that day by residents in East Los Angeles, could cause problems in prosecuting Ramirez. It may make it impossible for the prosecutors to convince a jury that eyewitnesses and victims recognized the attacker from their own experience, rather than through the impression created by the media, according to McGee.

Ramirez is charged in 8 felony counts

By Jim Carlton
and Shawn Huber
The Register

Thin, sallow Richard Ramirez — an eighth-grade dropout with a reported penchant for heavy-metal music and the occult — formally was charged Tuesday in Los Angeles with eight felony counts, including one of the "night stalker" killings.

But in El Paso, Ramirez' sister said Tuesday he has told his family he is innocent of the five-month string of serial slayings.

Rosa Flores added that his denial — in a recent conversation with his brother, Julian Ramirez Jr. — seemed "psychotic" and was tinged with hysteria.

"He was laughing," Flores said. "He laughed and then asked (Julian) how was the weather outside. And then he laughed some more and said he didn't do it. That seems a little psychotic to me."

The charges filed Tuesday stemmed from two incidents tied to the "night stalker": the May 14 slaying of William Doi, 66, who was shot in the face at his home in Monterey Park, and the rape of Doi's 63-year-old wife, who is confined to a wheelchair because of a stroke; and a May 9 burglary-robbery at the Monrovia home of Clara C. Hasdall, 85.

Doi's assailant, according to police reports, crawled into his suburban home through an open window and shot the sleeping man with a .22-caliber gun. Then, the reports said, the intruder bound Lillie Doi with thumbcuffs, raped her, sodomized her and forced her to perform oral copulation.

In the May 9 incident, Hasdall reported an intruder crawled through her kitchen window around 2:40 a.m. and shined a flashlight in her face to awaken her. The man robbed her of money

and jewelry valued at \$540, the police reports said.

While a crush of curiosity-seekers packed the courtroom where he was arraigned, Ramirez was charged with burglary, robbery, various sexual assaults and murder in connection with those incidents.

"There he is! There he is!" spectators whispered excitedly. Even the Los Angeles investigators handling the "night stalker" killings appeared awed.

"I keep expecting he'll have bile coming out of his mouth," one investigator said to his colleague, "or he'll stare and glass will start popping."

But the emaciated drifter, with rotten, gapped teeth, only hunched his shoulders and shifted his body to avoid the stares of the courtroom audience.

In a clear voice, he waived his right to enter a plea — an act that delayed court proceedings until Monday. Dave Meyer, his court-appointed public defender, explained he needed more time to discuss the case with Ramirez and study police reports.

The delay gives prosecutors more time to collect evidence for filing further criminal charges. Though they believe he could be linked to some 14 homicides (an earlier tally of 16 was in error, police now say), authorities filed only the Doi and Hasdall charges because only those cases had been completely investigated, said Los Angeles County District Attorney Ira Reiner.

Los Angeles County Sheriff Sherman Block said that since Ramirez's arrest Saturday in East Los Angeles, his department has issued a nationwide call to police for cases they believe may be linked to the serial killer, whose methods have been so distinctive, investigative sources said, that "you could



Richard Ramirez, left, is led into the Los Angeles Criminal Courts building Tuesday by a Los Angeles County deputy sheriff.

tell within one minute of walking onto a crime scene whether it had been done by him."

Block said several Western states have responded to the call but no new crimes have been added to the "night stalker" list. Ramirez is known to have paid frequent visits to friends and relatives in Texas and Arizona, but Block would not say which states had responded. He would confirm only that Ramirez is believed to have been in Arizona in the days just before his arrival and arrest in Los Angeles Saturday.

Ramirez also may be linked to a number of unsolved burglaries, court documents indicate. Police suspect, for instance, that an April 11 burglary of \$1,300 worth of jewelry, appliances and video equipment in Monterey Park may have been Ramirez's work.

Deputy District Attorney P. Philip Halpin said a piece of property taken in an April burglary in Monterey Park may be of significance to some of the "night stalker" attacks. But a great deal more paper work must be completed before the whole picture is pieced together, and "virtually a mountain of evidence" must be collated and analyzed, Reiner added.

At first glance, evidence in the Doi case appeared to be somewhat sketchy. Mrs. Doi told police her assailant was a 6-foot-tall Anglo with a medium build and light brown, wavy hair. Ramirez is a 6-foot-1 Hispanic with a medium build and curly black hair. Police reports also indicate no fingerprints were found in the Doi residence, bedroom sheets bore no body hairs or fibers from Ramirez, and a plaster cast of footprints left at the scene was not clear enough to determine the intruder's shoe size.

San Francisco and Orange counties officials have served Ramirez with arrest warrants for crimes there.

In Orange County, Chief Deputy District Attorney James Enright said he expects to file charges by next week in the recent Mission Viejo "night stalker" attack. In that Aug. 25 incident — the last strike identified as the work of the serial killer — Bill Carns, 29, was shot three times in the head, and his girlfriend was sexually assaulted.

Register staff writers Lennie LaGuire, Carroll Lachnit, Tina May and Dan Weikel contributed to this report.

Computer may help solve thousands of crimes a year

By Jeff Weir
The Register

SACRAMENTO — The computer system that identified a muddy fingerprint of "night stalker" suspect Richard Ramirez should enable law-enforcement agencies to identify 8,000 more criminals a year and solve up to 22,000 crimes, Attorney General John Van de Kamp said Tuesday.

"Last Friday, at 11:09 a.m., California entered a new era in law enforcement," Van de Kamp said at a Capitol news conference. "In just three minutes, CAL-ID, the Department of Justice's brand-new, computerized fingerprint-identification system, scored a direct 'hit' on Richard Ramirez as the chief suspect in the grisly 'night stalker' investigation."

It was the first search ever run in the new program, which was begun in January, he said.

When the fledgling system goes into full operation in 1987, he said, it will be able to scan and match fingerprints for 1.5 million individuals — mostly known felons — and allow law-enforcement agencies to identify thousands of suspects for burglaries, robberies, assaults and murders.

"Before CAL-ID, such searches had to be conducted by hand ... a very difficult process with millions of prints. Tens of thousands of hours were required," Van de Kamp said. "A killer like the 'night stalker' could have claimed dozens of additional victims before even one search was completed. It's like searching for a needle in a haystack."

Last week, the computer matched Ramirez with a smudged fingerprint from a stolen Toyota that was spotted near the scene of an attack by the so-called "night stalker" in Mission Viejo. Even though only a third of the print was visible, the computer linked it to Ramirez after scanning 380,000 sets of prints. Subsequent manual

comparisons confirmed the match. The Ramirez prints stored in the computer had been gleaned from a December 1984 case in Los Angeles, when Ramirez was arrested on charges of grand theft and possessing controlled substances.

While praising the system Tuesday, Van de Kamp conceded, "we were lucky these prints were in our data base."

If Ramirez had been born in 1959, instead of Feb. 28, 1960, his fingerprints would not have popped up during the fingerprint search Friday, he said. So far, the computer has been programmed only with prints from individuals born since 1960 and it would have been several more weeks before data on older people found their way into the computer, the attorney general said.

The computer verification helped persuade law-enforcement agencies to issue a statewide bulletin Friday night on Ramirez's possible involvement in the 14 "night stalker" slayings, Van de Kamp said.

"The computer-system confirmation was important in the decision to announce Ramirez's name," Van de Kamp said. "They wrestled with whether to release it publicly The rest is history."

Twelve hours after the announcement, Ramirez was corralled by citizens in East Los Angeles, several of whom had seen his picture on television.

According to Van de Kamp, a copy of the latent fingerprint from the stolen car was flown up to Sacramento by Orange County authorities on Thursday. Some 20 hours later — after technicians reprogrammed the experimental computer to do its first fingerprint search — the machine was ready to scan for a match.

Three minutes later, the computer kicked out Ramirez's name at the top of a list of 10 possible matches.

Hot leads, big breaks, chase and 'stalker' suspect caught

Second of two parts
By Lennie LaGuire
and Edward Humes
The Register

After months of frustration and dead ends—of being outwitted and outmaneuvered by a brazen killer who seemed to attack at will—investigators on the so-called "night stalker" case finally got their first big break.

It came in late August.

Six weeks had passed since early July, when investigators first realized a single intruder might be responsible for a bizarre series of slayings and assaults. The team of investigators from eight police

agencies had yet to come close to naming a suspect, much less to making an arrest in the 15 killings and at least 20 attacks throughout California.

A heat wave gripped Southern California, yet residents shut their windows and doors, preferring to endure stifling temperatures rather than risk a visit from the "walk-in killer."

With each new crime—five killings and numerous assaults since the task force was formed—frustration and fear mounted.

The police and public wondered: Who would be next?

Then came a week of rapid-fire

Please see **STALKER/A3**

STALKER: A week of rapid-fire developments culminates in arrest of suspect in 15 killings

FROM A1

developments. The case came to a head in just six days, with the arrest on Aug. 31 of Richard Ramirez, a 25-year-old solitary drifter with a taste for junk food, Satanism and heavy-metal music.

That week began, however, with tragedy — the "night stalker's" first known foray into Orange County.

Aug. 25. James Romero III, a 13-year-old who likes to tinker with motorbikes, was up late. As he worked on his bike, he thought he heard someone walking alongside the garage of his family's Mission Viejo house at about 1:30 a.m. Looking out minutes later, he saw an orange car and part of its license plate.

His father called sheriff's deputies, who got there in four minutes. They took a routine prowler report.

No one realized it yet, but the boy's sharp eyes had provided the first real lead in the case. Within hours, the chase would be on.

But first, the prowler had other business several blocks away. And at 2:40 a.m., the call went out: Bill Carns, 29, had been shot three times in the head and neck. His girlfriend had been sexually assaulted during the attack on Christa Drive. She ran out of the house wrapped in a towel, crying for help.

By 5:35 a.m., the Orange County Sheriff's Department had made the connection between the two incidents, and issued an all-points bulletin for an orange station wagon driven by a man in black.

Later that day in Lompoc, about 150 miles north of Los Angeles, a 25-year-old man heard about the attack and started to wonder about a friend of his named "Rick."

Aug. 26. As Jon Quinn prepared to open his small health-food store, located in a 1930s-era shopping center near Los Angeles' Ambassador Hotel, he noticed an orange Toyota station wagon, license number 482 RTS, parked in the lot

outside. Quinn said he notices things like that because stolen cars frequently are ditched in the lot. It didn't mean much at the time, not enough to call the police. But he wrote down the license number anyway.

By that night, the car would become very significant. Los Angeles Sheriff's officials that evening asked the public for help in finding an orange Toyota station wagon, stolen Aug. 24 in Chinatown and believed linked to the "night stalker" case. Its license number: 482 RTS.

(Earlier the same day, Richard Ramirez, using a false name, had received a traffic citation for driving a motorcycle without a license in central Los Angeles, police said. The officer did not recognize him from the composite drawing then in circulation.)

Aug. 27. At about 11 a.m., someone called Los Angeles police from a pay phone at the center where Quinn runs his shop, informing them that the orange car had been spotted. Within minutes, a squadron of police arrived, and a helicopter whirled overhead. But after Quinn informed them the trail was cold — that the car in question had been there since Monday — most of the officers dispersed. A few detectives stayed behind to stake out the car from behind the wall of a garage-top swimming pool across the street, just in case.

Aug. 28. Detectives watching the orange car decided by early morning that no one was going to come forward to claim it. By midmorning, police announced to the public they had found the car, then hauled it to Orange County, where sheriff's specialists began examining it for fingerprints.

Aug. 29. Half a state away, San Francisco Police crime-scene investigator Larry Dubour was reflecting on his assignment: analyz-

ing evidence found at the Aug. 17 walk-in slaying of Peter Pan, a 66-year-old businessman, and the assault on his wife, Barbara. Dubour decided to hash out his findings with homicide Inspector Frank Falzon.

"We didn't have any suspects at the time," Dubour recalled. "(But) I had this gnawing thing in the back of my mind."

Dubour, without realizing it, had stumbled upon something important.

The day before the Pan slaying, Dubour had worked a burglary on the other side of the city. By rights, the case wasn't his — another investigator had been assigned to it. But that investigator had been given the wrong address, and an irate burglary victim called the station later to complain that no one had shown up.

Dubour said he would take the call. When he arrived, he found the burglar had entered through a bathroom window, ransacked the house, and made off with jewelry and a videocassette recorder. He lifted fingerprints from the window, but found evidence inside that the intruder had worn gloves.

Later at Pan's ransacked house, Dubour immediately noticed the similarity to his burglary case. However, he discounted it because he thought the missing VCR and fingerprints on the window were inconsistent with his understanding of the "night stalker's" M.O.: no prints and no theft of anything but jewelry and cash.

But now, talking to Falzon, he learned the "night stalker's" activities frequently broke supposedly established patterns. After poring over reports on both cases, the two policemen became convinced that the same man committed both crimes, Dubour said.

"It was really kind of a fluke," he recalled. "I don't want to toot

my own horn, but if not for that wrong address, the connection might never have been made."

They knew it was a hot lead, but they had no idea how hot.

Meanwhile, Orange County investigators had discovered a single fingerprint on the Toyota, using advanced lasers to make the print visible. Officials flew the print to Sacramento, where the state Department of Justice began a lengthy computer search of criminal records, looking for a possible match. It was a long shot.

Aug. 30. In the small city of Lompoc, Earl Gregg, who had contacted police with his suspicions about his friend "Rick" earlier in the week, now provided authorities with two more concrete clues: a solid gold bracelet, inscribed on the inside with its original owner's driver-license number, and a pearl solitaire ring he said "Rick" had given him.

The driver-license number belonged to Dubour's burglary victim.

Gregg put San Francisco police in touch with his mother-in-law, Donna Louise Myers of San Pablo, another old friend of "Rick." She led them to yet another Bay area crony, Armando Rodriguez of El Sobrante.

Myers remembers watching television news with Rick a few weeks ago. She said a police composite drawing of the "night stalker" suspect flashed on the screen, and Rick asked her if she saw any resemblance.

"Jokingly, I said, 'You didn't have enough guts,'" Myers said.

But later, with the help of Myers and Rodriguez, police for the first time learned "Rick's" real name: Richard Ramirez. At the El Sobrante house, police recovered a VCR taken in Dubour's burglary case. It provided a link between Ramirez and the San Francisco

crimes, they decided.

Excitedly, San Francisco police called Sacramento asking Justice Department officials to pull Ramirez's criminal file and fingerprint card to compare to the print from the orange Toyota.

They matched.

An independent computer search confirmed the match minutes later.

That evening, after urgent communications between the far-flung investigative agencies involved in the manhunt, Los Angeles Sheriff Sherman Block and San Francisco Police Chief Cornelius Murphy called simultaneous news conferences in their cities.

They had a prime suspect in the "night stalker" killings, the lawmen said. They asked for public help in bringing him in.

Richard Ramirez had fewer than twelve hours of freedom left.

Aug. 31. A tall, thin man picked up a newspaper in a downtown Los Angeles liquor store about 8:30 a.m. Richard Ramirez's face stared back at him from the front page.

He had just gotten off a Greyhound bus from Arizona, not knowing until that moment he was a wanted man, police theorize. He bolted from the store, hopped on a city bus, and touched off a frenzied chase by police and citizens that ended in Boyle Heights, a tight-knit neighborhood where strangers get close scrutiny.

A 1966 Mustang beckoned, but as the would-be thief tried to drive off, the car owner reached in and grabbed the man's neck, sending the car crashing into a tree. The thin man fled across the street, accosting a woman, demanding the keys to her Ford Granada, and knocking her to the ground.

But Angie de la Torre's husband, Manuel, came to her aid — wielding a barbecue tool as a club, by some accounts — and clouted him

on the forehead. When the man ran, de la Torre and six or so other neighbors hit him again. They knocked him down and held him until a sheriff's deputy arrived for the arrest.

The men who captured Ramirez have been declared heroes.

Ramirez, whose past brushes with the law were for drug possession and petty theft, declared upon his arrest: "It's me. It's me, man."

Epilogue. Five days after Ramirez's capture, the hot-weather spell had snapped. Investigators had linked at least one new crime to the "night stalker" case — a killing in June 1984 — and other unsolved crimes were under scrutiny.

"At last all the people of California can breathe a sigh of relief tonight," Los Angeles Mayor Tom Bradley had declared.

But windows and doors remained tightly closed on Arlight Street in Monterey Park, the scene of the July 7 killing of Joyce Nelson. After her death, police had chastised neighbors for ignoring sounds that night: sounds of a prowler, sounds of screaming, sounds of gunfire.

Now the neighborhood watches and listens for all strange sights and sounds. Strangers are greeted with suspicion through barely opened doors.

An out-of-town visitor, ringing doorbells in the noonday sun to interview the residents of Arlight Street, was almost arrested after five residents reported a prowler in the neighborhood.

"They don't think he's been caught," explained officer G. Palmer. "Maybe if he'd been shot, they'd believe it. But he wasn't. And they don't."

Register staff writer Shawn Hubler contributed to this report.

MARINO-LESS DOLPHINS WHIP

Sunday

August 25, 1985

Final news

75 cents

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LOS ANGELES HERALD



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EXAMINER

9

Night Stalker's dental records add new clue

By Jeff Gottlieb
Herald staff writer

Dental records show that the man investigators think is the Night Stalker may have dental problems similar to those of a drug addict, one of the nation's top forensic dentists said yesterday.

Dr. Lowell Levine of New York based his opinion on a Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department "special bulletin," distributed to 5,000 dentists, which describes a man who is missing 12 of his 32 teeth, including many of his molars.

A copy of the bulletin was obtained by the Herald.

"If you want to speculate, we tend to see that type of thing in addicts and former addicts," Levine said. "So many missing teeth and cavities."

A sheriff's department spokesman refused comment.

Levine, a specialist in dental identification, was part of the team that flew to Brazil earlier this year to identify the remains of Nazi doctor Josef Mengele. He was reached by telephone in Philadelphia, where he was helping the coroner's office investigate the deaths of several members of the radical group MOVE.

Levine said drug addicts often have many missing teeth and cavities because narcotics mask the pain of bad teeth, and most addicts eat food high in sugar.

Sheriff's investigators obtained the dental records from a Southern California dentist who recently treated a man matching the description of the Night Stalker, whom authorities have linked to 14 murders.

According to the records, the
Stalker/A-13, Col. 1

Message is the killer's 'signature'

Scrawl holds key to his personality

By Annette Haddad
Herald staff writer

Police won't say what it is, but the elusive Night Stalker has left a message or messages scrawled on the wall in the homes of at least two of his murder victims.

The scrawls were found in a home in San Francisco's Lakeside District, where the serial killer struck Aug. 17, and in at least one home in Los Angeles County, authorities said. The murders of at least 14 people now are linked to the Night Stalker.

Investigators haven't disclosed the contents of the Night Stalker's messages, or other "distinctive" evidence the killer leaves at the scene of the crimes, but psychiatric specialists say whatever the message, it should unmask the killer's true personality.

In the annals of crime, only a few serial killers have been known to leave behind a "signature" — a message or other

Sign/A-13, Col. 2

Man's dental records are key to search

Stalker/Continued from A-1
man deputies are seeking has had dental work performed to build up his two top front teeth, but the repair work is discolored and broken at the corners.

Several of his lower front teeth have been restored with a plastic-like material and have many cavities.

On his upper jaw, the killer is missing all but one of his back right teeth. On the bottom jaw, he is missing the five back bottom teeth. One of his front incisors is probably a false tooth.

Two teeth have had root canal surgery.

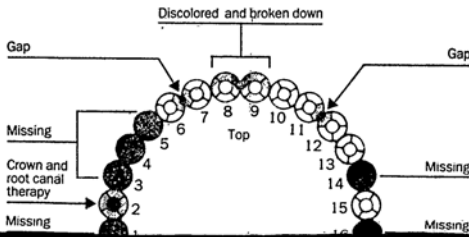
Dr. Harry Helfman, a Los Angeles dentist who treats many low-income patients, said similar dental problems are found in poor people who seldom visit a dentist.

Helfman said the suspect's decayed and ill-repaired teeth would be readily apparent.

"When he talks or smiles, he's probably not going to show his teeth," said Helfman. The dentist said the absence of many of the suspect's molars would make it difficult for him to chew.

The sheriff's bulletin warned that the suspect may ask

WHAT DENTAL RECORDS SHOW



A look at Night Stalker's victims and fear instilled in neighbors

By Mark S. Warnick
Herald staff writer

Teresa Beyerle heard the Night Stalker's first deadly shot.

She was inside her Rosemead condominium on the night of March 17 when the sound of gunfire came from the kitchen of her neighbor, Dayle Okazaki.

"I didn't know what had happened," Beyerle said. "It never occurred to me that somebody had been murdered."

The shot left Okazaki lying dead on her kitchen floor. And it made her the first of at least 14 people murdered by the vicious serial killer, according to authorities.

About an hour after Okazaki was slain and two miles away, Tsai-lan Yu became victim No. 2. Yu, 35, was pulled from her car in front of her Alhambra Avenue condominium in Monterey Park and shot repeatedly, investigators said.

She was the only one of the suspect's fatal victims not slain inside a home.

Until last weekend, the Night Stalker killings occurred exclusively in Los Angeles County — from Northridge, 27 miles northwest of downtown Los Angeles, to Diamond Bar, about 30 miles to the

stabbed or bludgeoned. Some people have not been killed.

In some cases, women were sexually assaulted. Often, but not always, houses were ransacked.

"In most serial killings, there's some degree of consistency," Block said. "Serial killers go after a particular kind of victim. There's no consistency here, either in race, sex or age."

The fatal victims ranged in age from 28 to 80. They included six men and eight women.

Six were Asian and eight were Anglo. While Block has acknowledged a "disproportionate number of Asian victims," he does not believe the killer has targeted members of any particular race. Instead, the sheriff said, the Night Stalker has attacked in homes with easy access.

The remaining 12 murder victims of the Night Stalker include:

■ Vincent Zazzara, 64, and Maxine Zazzara, 44. They were found dead in their home on Strong Avenue in Whittier March 27. They were killed between 10:30 p.m. and 6:30 a.m. the night before. He was bludgeoned to death and she was stabbed numerous times.

■ William Doi, 66, who was shot and killed inside his home on

of July 1. Her body was found in her East Haven Avenue home in Arcadia.

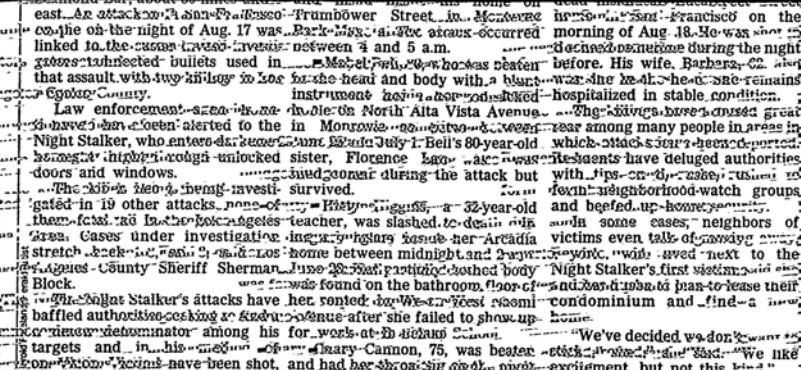
■ Joyce Nelson, 60, was shot to death inside her home on Arlight Street in Monterey Park on July 7.

■ Maxon Kneiding, 68, and Lela Kneiding, 64, were shot to death at their home on Stanley Avenue in Glendale between 1 and 2 a.m. July 20. Their assailant escaped with an unknown amount of jewelry.

■ Chainarong Khovananth, 32, died of a gunshot wound to the chest while asleep in his home on Schoenbrun Street in Sun Valley less than three hours after the Kneidings were murdered. Khovananth's wife and 8-year-old son were tied up and beaten for several hours after the shooting. Khovananth's 2-year-old daughter was unharmed. More than \$30,000 in money and jewelry was taken from their house.

■ Elias Abowath, 28, died of a gunshot wound to the head in an attack between 2 and 4 a.m. August 8. Abowath was killed inside his Pinehill Lane house in Diamond Bar. His wife was beaten by the suspect. The couple's two sons, ages 3 and 3 months, were not harmed.

■ Peter H. Pan, 66, was found dead inside his Encinitas Street

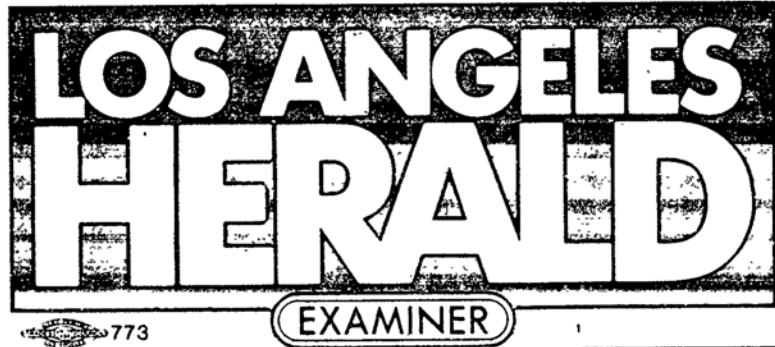
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Detectives search for eyeballs Night Stalker tore from victim

By Andy Furillo
Herald staff writer

Los Angeles sheriff's detectives are searching for a pair of eyes that Night Stalker suspect Richard Ramirez may have removed from one of his victims in the string of grisly slayings that terrorized California.

The disclosure came yesterday when a search warrant affidavit was unsealed in El Paso, Texas. The warrant was served on the homes of Ramirez's sister and father in the Texas border city. No eyes were recovered in the search.

"One victim's eyes were cut out in these murders," said Los Angeles sheriff's Detective Robert Perry in

the affidavit. "They also may have been mailed to the listed addresses (of the Night Stalker suspect's relatives)."

A prepared statement released later yesterday by the Sheriff's Information Bureau confirmed that investigators are looking for the eyeballs as evidence in the case against Ramirez.

The lanky, 25-year-old drifter has thus far been charged with two of at least 15 murders that authorities are investigating as part of the Night Stalker case.

"A victim's eyes were removed in one of the homicide cases currently under investigation and

Stalker/A-7, Col. 1

Police hunt for eyes torn from Stalker victim

Stalker/Continued from A-1

have been listed in several search warrant affidavits that were served at several locations, including one in El Paso, Texas," said the statement, read by sheriff's spokesman Deputy Steve Lee.

More than 300 items allegedly stolen by Ramirez were recovered by investigators at the El Paso residence of his sister, Rosa Flores, according to court documents.

El Paso County Court at Law Judge John Fashing said yesterday that the recovered items were identified in a 55-page search warrant filed in Texas by Detective Perry.

"It's the longest search warrant I've ever seen," Fashing said in a telephone interview, as he read from an 18-page list of allegedly stolen property that was recovered from Flores' home last Wednesday.

However, sources said that Flores is not a suspect in the case.

Flores, claiming "loyalty" to her brother, yesterday declined to comment about the search conducted at her home in the central El Paso neighborhood where Ramirez was raised.

"You guys (in the press) haven't given my brother a chance," she said in a telephone interview. "You've already judged him guilty."

Investigators also searched the El Paso home of Ramirez's father, Julian Ramirez Sr., last week, according to the court documents.

Perry's affidavit in support of the search warrant alleged that Ramirez may have communicated

regularly with his family in El Paso during the Night Stalker slayings.

"Ramirez has been known to ... phone both Rosa (Flores) or his father, Julian Ramirez Sr.," the affidavit said, adding that "such information would show where (Ramirez) was located when he either phoned or wrote the above mentioned people."

In addition to the allegedly stolen property, the affidavit said that investigators were looking for handguns, knives, double-edged daggers, handcuffs and bloody clothing that Ramirez may have worn during the slayings.

Investigators also searched for satanic materials such as writings or drawings that Ramirez may have mailed to his relatives during the course of the serial killings.

There was no indication that investigators found either the weapons or the satanic materials, Fashing said.

Perry stated that serial killers have a propensity to tape-record or photograph their victims, but there was no indication that those kinds of materials were located during the El Paso searches.

Perry said the information leading detectives to El Paso was developed during interviews with Donna Myers and Amado Rodriguez, two San Francisco informants who told investigators that they received allegedly stolen property from Ramirez.

Ramirez stands accused of killing William Doi, 65, of Monterey Park on May 14, and Peter Pan, 66, of San Francisco on Aug. 17. Seven

other criminal charges, including the sexual battery of Doi's wife, have been filed against Ramirez in Los Angeles.

Meanwhile, Los Angeles County deputy public defender Allen Adashek spoke with Ramirez for three hours yesterday at the County Jail, but refused to disclose the details of his conversation with the Night Stalker suspect.

El Paso attorney Manuel Barraza, claiming he had been asked by Ramirez's family to represent the suspected Night Stalker, arrived in Los Angeles on Monday night and spoke with the defendant for about 45 minutes.

Barraza claimed that Ramirez cracked jokes, asked about the attorney's religious beliefs and maintained his innocence during their conversation.

Adashek, however, said that he and not Barraza is still Ramirez's attorney of record. He said yesterday afternoon that he had not met with Barraza since the El Paso lawyer's arrival in Los Angeles. Barraza was unavailable for comment yesterday.

The deputy public defender also issued mild criticism of Barraza's impromptu press conference Monday night in which the Texas lawyer said Ramirez was in "good spirits." Adashek has repeatedly refused to characterize Ramirez's mood.

"I'm upset to the extent that any comments about that (Ramirez's state of mind while in jail) bring added attention to the case," Adashek said.

OPINION/CLEARINGHOUSE

What explains behavior of 'night stalker'?

'The psychologists will have a field day'

There's something about this "night stalker" case that has bothered me since I read the Sept. 2 headline, "Satanism and the 'night stalker' suspect." I really find it hard to swallow the reality of Satan, hell, demons or devils, and yet ...

I have heard from representatives of various religions basically the same story; that is, under the proper conditions, a person's soul or essence may be invaded and controlled by some sort of emissary from hell. Before you cart me off to the loony bin, let me say that I've only considered this, as remote as it is, simply because I've run out of other explanations for the "night stalker's" behavior.

His actions have not been erratic to any extent. I've seen no indication of what I would consider emotional disturbance. To be precise, he may have a fragmented, tortured personality and be acceptably "sick," according to society's standards. Yet, his actions apparently have been well thought out and executed with a skill few of us could evoke. For months he killed at will and consistently eluded capture.

It will be said in court that this man is mentally ill — don't believe it. It is the easy way out. Yet, that's what I'd like to believe. You see, if he's not insane and he knew full well what he was doing, and presumably enjoyed his work, then what we're dealing with is something alien, not human as we understand it. He supposedly entered homes, shot the man of the house several times at close range in the face, then sexually assaulted the man's wife — then went into the kitchen for something to eat!

During the months to come, there will be all kinds of explanations offered for this man's behavior. The psychologists will have a field day: a neglected childhood, a distorted youth, an alcoholic father, racial bias, schizophrenia — you name it. As for myself, nothing remotely human explains what happened. Nothing will allow me to place this man's actions into some understandable framework.

Frederick J. Hermon
Santa Ana

Don't the kooks ever give up on "satanism?" All somebody has to do is scrawl a pentagram on a wall, write "Manson sucks" on a bedroom mirror, or play Dungeons and Dragons and they come out from under the woodwork like cockroaches.

When they begin sticking their claws into serial killings, that's going too far. This is a serious matter; those who contaminate it with superstitious rantings about "satanic demons" put the real work back years.

Eugene Austin
Orange

Now that the sadistic, multiple rapist-murderer suspect has been captured, what do you want to bet that [if found guilty] he will still be alive five years from now? In fact, he might even be free. As long as Rose Bird and her leftist cronies are on the state Supreme Court, the "night stalker" will never be executed for his rampage.

How many millions of dollars will we have to pay for his defense, his prosecution and his imprisonment? I am sure we will hear from the liberals about how it is society's fault that he committed these crimes.

Pat Herber
Santa Ana

Before too many people overreact to the good news about the capture of the "night stalker" suspect, let us remember that it is only a temporary setback for him.

He had the good sense to commit his crimes in California, where the judicial system, especially the state Supreme Court, will be working overtime to make sure that a violation of his "rights" will be found, definitely saving him from the death penalty, and paving the way for his freedom at the earliest possible date.

Now if the "night stalker" had done this in Florida or Texas, he would really have a problem.

Dennis D. Dunn
Westminster



Richard Ramirez

Even though the "night stalker" suspect has been captured, I can't breathe easy, because, if convicted, Richard Ramirez won't get the punishment he's due in this state. Rose Bird and her court only empathize with criminals. He'll be a free man in no time.

Diane Morgan
Yorba Linda

Our wonderful criminal-justice system, with its court-appointed defense lawyers and psychologists, paid for by us taxpayers, will at worst see to it that the "night stalker" won't be executed, but will be put behind bars in an air-conditioned cell with a color television and the best foods for the rest of his life, at a cost of about \$20,000 a year.

Some people say capital punishment doesn't work. I say that if he is found guilty, and if we execute him as we should, he will never have the opportunity to place a cold gun barrel against the back of an innocent victim's head and, in a moment of stark terror, blow his brains out.

Decent people shouldn't have to share the same air with such mad-dog killers.

L. Burkey
Yorba Linda

As I sit here after yet another sleepless night, overly tired and scared, due to the actions of the "night stalker," I thought I'd make a suggestion to all the local police departments.

Obviously the police cannot be everywhere at once, but why not take about 75 percent or 80 percent of the traffic cops off their "harassment duty" and put them on the night shift patrolling our neighborhoods? That would increase patrols and consequently decrease crime without any increase in expense.

The revenue due to traffic tickets would drop somewhat, but at least the officers would be doing what they swore to do: protecting the residents of their cities.

Maybe we could rest a little easier then, and wouldn't have to go to bed armed to the teeth.

C. DeRose
Santa Ana

T H E O R A N G E C O U N T Y
Register

SUNDAY

SEPTEMBER 8th 1985

75 CENTS

Circuitous route leads to realization that serial killer is loose

First of two parts
By Edward Humes
and Lennie LaGuire
The Register

Gasping for help, a 29-year-old woman lurched into the morning darkness, clad only in the towel she had clutched in her terror and pain.

The so-called "night stalker" had paid a visit to a once-quiet suburban street in Mission Viejo — his last known crime, his first to touch Orange County, and the beginning of the end for Richard Ramirez. It was Aug. 25, and "night stalk-

er" suspect Ramirez had fewer than seven days of freedom left.

Even as lights in that Mission Viejo neighborhood flickered on and bewildered neighbors stumbled outside to help the woman, an inexorable chain of events had begun that led to the 25-year-old drifter's capture on Aug. 31.

An investigation spanning seven months and involving at least eight police departments was galvanized by events following the Mission Viejo attack. After months of frustration and dead ends, new evidence began to stream in: a suspicious friend in Lompoc, stolen

property found in a Bay area home, a watchful teen-ager in Mission Viejo, a piece of a fingerprint found through a fortuitous combination of luck and laser technology.

There had been little progress since the first week in July, when police departments throughout the Los Angeles area compared notes, and decided their seemingly separate, unsolved killings were the work of one man.

But in the week following the Orange County attack — the shooting of Bill Carns and the sexual assault of the woman — things started fall-

ing into place. A name in the mysterious series of 15 killings and at least 20 attacks surfaced. An arrest was made. Men and women who helped capture the suspect were declared heroes. And the lives that had been shattered and the neighborhoods that had learned new fears pulled themselves together, though they discovered a bitter lesson.

Despite the arrest, they found, the terror did not fade. Not yet. Pieces of the investigative puzzle remain missing still. But much of the trail now has become clear, from the earliest crimes, to the re-

alization a madman might be on the loose, to the arrest late last month. Here is that trail.

It began last February.

Feb. 25: A 6-year-old girl sat on a school bench at Wilcox Elementary School in Montebello, waiting for her teen-age sister to pick her up after kindergarten. Principal Doris Mori-Kerkes remembers seeing the girl at 2:15 p.m., still waiting patiently, hands in lap.

When next she looked, at about 2:25, the girl was gone. School employees assumed she had been picked up by the sister — until the sister arrived a few minutes later.

Then everyone assumed the worst. There had been too many missing children, too many faces with frozen smiles plastered on milk cartons. A police command post was set up at the school; police and volunteers scoured the neighborhood near Wilcox.

Just as the search geared up, the girl was found, about two hours after her abduction, wandering on Mariposa Street in Los Angeles' Rampart District. She told police she had been taken to a motel or boarding house, raped, then set

Please see **STALKER/A14**

INSIDE

STALKER: Investigators assemble pieces of the puzzle after 7-month-long spree of violence

FROM A1
loose by a tall, thin man driving an old imported car—later to become a "night stalker" trademark.

One of the first composites of the "night stalker" was produced from the girl's description, although it was months before her abduction was tied to any other cases. There were no suspects.

March 11: Police in nearby Monterey Park began fearing a serial child molester was roaming the area when a second youngster was abducted. This time, a 9-year-old boy was snatched from his bed as his younger brother slept undisturbed in the same room.

Two days later, at 4:30 a.m., a Goodwill Industries thrift store security guard found the boy wandering around close to the store, near Los Angeles' Chinatown. The 9-year-old had been molested. Because of the boy's longish hair, police theorized that the abductor mistook him for a girl.

Methods and descriptions led police to link the abduction with the Feb. 25 kidnapping, but investigators were stymied for a suspect.

March 17, 11 p.m.: Los Angeles city traffic supervisor Dayle Okazaki, 34, left her parents' house at about 9 p.m. They had watched a television movie together. Then she left for her condominium in Rosemead. Just before 11 p.m., an intruder broke into the condo through a garage door, shot her to death, and wounded a 25-year-old roommate, who eventually phoned for help.

Los Angeles Sheriff's investigators had a new killing to investigate, but few clues. The condo was ransacked. No fingerprints were found. Police figured the motive was burglary.

March 17, midnight: Tsai Lian Yu, 30, of Monterey Park, was driving on North Alhambra Street, a few blocks away from her family's home.

"I was awakened by a gunshot," recalled Karen LaRock, 32, of the 500 block of Alhambra. "Then I heard two more right after it. Then I heard someone scream four times, like 'Ah, Ah, Ah, Ahhhhh.'"

She shook her husband awake, and he dashed outside. Seconds later, he returned, shaken and white-faced, to pick up a blanket. He had found Yu sprawled in the street in front of her car, its lights on, engine running and door open. She had been dragged from the car and shot three times.

Moments before, a young girl and her grandmother had watched from a window as a man struggled

with Yu and pulled her from the car. The grandmother yanked the girl away from the window just as the shots sounded, the girl recalled.

"We didn't want any trouble," the girl explained.

Yu died en route to the hospital. Police suspected a lovers' quarrel or some other easily explainable crime of passion or profit. At the time, Monterey Park Police Chief Jon Elder said, investigators made no connection to the Rosemead killing or the other cases.

Later, with ballistics tests in hand to link the shooting to other "night stalker" crimes, police would theorize that the assailant who fled the scene of the Okazaki shooting thought he was being followed by the roommate who survived. He may have thought that Yu was that roommate—both were of Asian ancestry—and killed her after forcing her car to a halt, police suggested.

March 20: One more child is abducted and molested. An 8-year-old girl was taken from her home in the Eagle Rock section of Los Angeles as her parents slept. She was found later the next day, wandering in Glendale. Montebello, Monterey Park and county investigators compared notes and thought the cases probably were related. The modus operandi was similar.

March 27: Fifteen miles away from the scene of the first two killings, a double homicide took place in Whittier in the early morning hours. The bodies of Vincent Zazara, 64, and his wife, Maxine, 44, were not discovered until two days later. The attacker entered through an unlocked door.

Police had no motive, no suspect, and no idea that it could be linked to other crimes handled by other jurisdictions.

May 14: Shortly after 11 p.m., a police dispatcher in Monterey Park heard a man gasp "Help ... help" into the phone. There was nothing more, but computers linked to the "911" emergency system automatically provided an address for the call: a spacious home with a scrupulously trimmed lawn on a winding, tree-lined street in an affluent section of Monterey Park.

Police arrived at the house and found William Doi, a 66-year-old retired salesman, shot in the face. His stroke-crippled, wheelchair-bound wife had been beaten and raped.

Doi was rushed to a hospital, where he died of a heart attack police say was induced by the gun-



Richard Ramirez is led into a courtroom Tuesday to face arraignment in some of the 'night stalker' attacks.

shot wounds. His wife survived her injuries.

At the time, police blamed the killing on a burglar trying to eliminate witnesses. Two or three guns and other valuables were taken. There was no connection made to the other Monterey Park killing. The killings earned only brief stories in the local newspaper, buried in its page 2 "police blotter" column.

"The problem was, the cases were not being coordinated. Each agency, each city, was handling its own," Monterey Park's Chief Elder said. "There was no reason to make any connections at the time."

Mrs. Doi's vision is poor; she could not produce an accurate description of the attacker. Neighbors say she does not believe Ramirez was the man who attacked her.

However, bullet fragments recovered from Doi's head match those recovered from other "night stalker" crime scenes, a law-enforcement source said.

The attacker entered through an unlocked side window—the only

unlocked entry into the house, and one that neighbors repeatedly had warned Doi to secure, said Fred Lancon, a friend and neighbor of the Doi family.

"He'd say, 'Don't worry, don't worry,'" Lancon recalled. "Bill would say he came from Chicago, and that we don't even know real crime here."

May 29: On the outskirts of Monrovia, on a mountain road dominated by spectacular views of the San Gabriel Valley and hairpin turns, Mabel Close Bell, 84, and her invalid sister lived for 25 years.

Sometime on May 29, someone broke into the home, ransacked it, and severely beat the two women. Newspapers piled up for three days in front of their house until a gardener noticed them, then saw that the front door was ajar. He found the women inside, critically injured, on June 1.

Bell died six weeks later. The sister survived, but remains seriously ill.

Monrovia police attributed the crime at the time to one or more burglars.

June 27: Southern California was

gripped by sweltering heat. A 6-year-old girl was kidnapped from her Arcadia home sometime after 12:30 a.m. She was reported missing at 4 a.m. by parents who awoke to find their daughter gone.

A slender man of medium height had pried open her window and coaxed her outside by saying he was her baby sitter. She reported being taken to an old, beat-up "blue motel," where she was molested, then driven to a street corner in Los Angeles' Rampart District.

Her abductor instructed her to go to a service station and ask for help, which she did. The attendant there called police at 4:30 a.m.

The girl was wearing only pajamas when kidnapped. When police found her, she was dressed in a man's nylon jacket, and wore men's black socks to keep her feet warm.

Police immediately connected this crime to other area child kidnappings. But weeks passed before a sneaker footprint found outside the girl's window was matched with prints from other "night stalker" crime scenes, according

to sources.

June 28: Patty Elaine Higgins, a 32-year-old teacher, was found dead of a slashed throat in her run-down Arcadia duplex. Two employees of a construction company building apartments next door stopped by the house that morning to use the telephone.

"She was in the bathroom. ... Her throat was laid open from ear to ear," said Don Bonelli, one of the men who discovered her. Arcadia police at the time said they had no motive for the slaying, and the incident barely drew a mention in the local newspaper.

July 1: Frank Starich and his wife, Tina, grew worried when they noticed that their neighbor, Mary Cannon, 75, had not picked up the morning newspaper or responded to repeated telephone calls. They decided to let themselves in with a key Cannon had given them.

They found the living room in disarray, and the hall to their friend's bedroom strewn with clothes. They stopped in their tracks, went home, and called police.

When a patrolman arrived, drew his gun and entered the house, Mrs. Starich crouched behind him and followed him inside. She wanted to see.

"I thought, I hoped, she was all right, just hurt," Mrs. Starich said. "But she was there, face down, on the bed. I just froze."

Cannon had been beaten, her head bludgeoned, then covered with a pillow. A cane Cannon sometimes used was in pieces. The assailant had used it as one of his weapons, Mrs. Starich said.

The Stariches had wanted to install small stops on Cannon's windows, the kind that keep the sash from rising more than 5 inches, Starich said. They even went out and bought some for her, but she always put off installing them, he said.

"She'd say, 'there's plenty of time.'"

Police did not publicly declare any immediate connection between the Higgins and Cannon killings, but Arcadia Police Detective Ed Winter said it hadn't taken too much thinking to tie the two together.

"When you have ransacking like that, and a murder, and the same sort of entry ... we thought, my God, we've got some crazed guy running around. Why Arcadia?"

Please see STALKER/A15

'Night stalker' suspect charged; lottery sales to start Oct. 3

■ Richard Ramirez, suspect in a string of 15 so-called "night stalker" slayings, was formally charged Tuesday in Los Angeles with eight felony counts, including one of the killings. The charges stem from two incidents tied to the "night stalker": the May 14 slaying of William Doi, 66, who was shot in the face at his home in Monterey Park, and the rape of Doi's 63-year-old wife, who is confined to a wheelchair because of a stroke; and a May 9 burglary-robbery at the Monrovia home of Clara C. Hasdell, 85. In another development, police revealed Wednesday that the fingerprints of Ramirez match those found at the apartment of an elderly woman whose throat was slashed last summer in Los Angeles. In Orange County, authorities said they would be ready within two weeks to file charges against Ramirez in the Aug. 25 assault on a Mission Viejo couple. In that crime, William Carns, 29, was shot three times in the head while he slept, and his girlfriend was sexually assaulted. Ramirez, 25, was captured Aug. 31 by residents of a Hispanic neighborhood in Los Angeles, when he reportedly tried to steal a car after being recognized from wanted posters.



Richard Ramirez

■ Gov. George Deukmejian on Wednesday declared an Oct. 3 kickoff for the overdue state lottery, expected in its first two months to gush 45 million prizes of up to \$5,000 each and 160 jackpots of up to \$2 million apiece. But the majority of prizes, about 44.8 million, will be in the \$2 and \$5 categories. The announcement came 10 months after voters approved an initiative creating the games, with much of the proceeds to go to public school funding. Beginning at noon Oct. 3, players will be able to buy \$1 tickets at nearly 20,000 locations statewide.

■ The nation's first statewide "comparable worth" ruling was overturned Wednesday by a federal appeals court, which said the state of Washington did not have to offer women equal pay for jobs of equal worth. The 9th Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco reversed a decision that could have provided as much as \$1 billion in damages to 15,500 workers. The ruling could affect a similar suit pending in California on behalf of 100,000 past and present workers in female-dominated jobs. Comparable worth is a policy of equal pay for different jobs that are judged to be of equal value. The Reagan administration has opposed the policy. The California suit, filed in November, accuses the state of systematically underpaying workers in about 400 female-dominated positions such as secretary, nurse and clerk.

STALKER: Twisting trail leads to suspicion killings are related

FROM A14

What's going on?"

They were still Arcadia cases, though, and no ties were as yet drawn with previous killings elsewhere. But sheriff's investigators had been called in to assist, and the similarities to the killings in March and May were about to become obvious.

Police were starting to talk about a serial killer.

July 5: In Sierra Madre, dubbed recently one of America's 10 safest places to live, a 16-year-old girl was hauled from her bed by a man who entered through her bedroom window during the early morning hours and brutally beat and bludgeoned her while her family slept undisturbed. When she regained consciousness, she cried out for help to her family.

The "night stalker" trademarks — late-night intrusion through a window, ransacking and savage beating — were there. To the sheriff's investigators who were beginning to link some of these crimes, this case represented a low ebb.

"You find this 16-year-old all-American girl, and a guy beats the ... out of her with a tire iron and

exposes 40 inches of skull," said one investigator on the case. "A man shouldn't have to find his daughter that way."

"It's a real shocker in a small town like this," said Sierra Madre Police Sgt. C. D. Christensen. "After that, we had every unit we've got out on night patrols. All five of them."

July 7, 2:30 a.m.: The "night stalker" returned to Monterey Park. The first attack came on gently sloping Arlight Street in one of its many ranch-style houses — Joyce Nelson's home.

The 60-year-old grandmother, who planned to retire from her production-line job next year, was found beaten and stabbed, her house ransacked. Neighbors heard shots, a dog barking, a scream and someone in the bushes that night, but did not call police.

July 7, 3:30 a.m.: Less than a mile away, a 62-year-old Monterey Park woman was raped and her home burglarized. She was able to provide one of the first solid descriptions of the "night stalker." For her protection, police kept the incident quiet.

But Monterey Park's Chief Elder said there was no question in his investigators' minds at that point that a madman responsible for many crimes was on the loose.

That same day, Elder recalled, he picked up the telephone and put in a call to Los Angeles County Sheriff Sherman Block. At the same moment, his secretary told him Block was calling him.

July 8 through Aug. 24: It was the turning point: The connections between the killings had been made, and a multiagency task force was launched. The public finally was told what law officials had realized weeks earlier.

Six weeks of frustration passed — with one victim after another succumbing in communities throughout the San Gabriel and San Fernando valleys.

Edgy citizens kept their windows closed against the random violence despite the relentless heat. But three more walk-in killings occurred in July — a married couple in Glendale and a Sun Valley parking attendant whose wife and child survived beatings. On Aug. 6, an orthridge couple was shot after the

"night stalker" slipped in through an unlocked sliding door. They survived.

Two days later, a Diamond Bar man was slain. Then the state was jarred by the killing of a San Francisco businessman, Peter Pan, the first strike by the "night stalker" outside of Southern California. Investigators dreaded each new day and its potential for new victims.

Some of the crime scenes contained sinister scrawlings and pentagrams, five-sided stars connected with Satan worship.

The pattern was to kill or attempt to kill any adult male immediately, then to assault adult women, sparing them if they acquiesced, killing them if they put up a fight. Children seemed to escape the beating, although some were molested.

Investigators would gather after their endless day's work, nursing shots of whiskey — "debriefing," they called it.

They were at a standstill.

Monday: the big break

Register staff writer Shawn Hubler contributed to this report.

Ramirez joked with friend about being killer

'Do you think I did it?' he asked. No, she said, and the Night Stalker struck again

By Sharon Horne and Mark S. Warnick
Herald staff writers

THE NIGHT STALKER CASE

One day before the last known Night Stalker attack, suspected serial killer Richard Ramirez joked with a friend about whether he was the murderer being hunted by authorities throughout California.

During a conversation in San Pablo last month, Ramirez asked Donna Myers, if she thought he was the Night Stalker, said Earl Gregg, which he and his wife, Deleen, spoke of his friend was really a fugitive killer.

Gregg Jr., Myers' son-in-law, said they reacted to his arrest. "He asked me, 'Do you think I did it?'" Donna, don't think I'm that kind of person," Gregg said. "She (Myers) said no."

The following night, Aug. 17, San Francisco accountant Peter Pan was murdered inside a home near Lake Merced.

Ramirez was arrested by police last Saturday. He has been charged with the slaying as well as the May 14 killing of William Dotson in Monterey Park.

Authorities have said Ramirez is linked to at least 15 murders from Orange County to San

Francisco. Ramirez's conversation with Myers was revealed at a news conference in Gregg's hometown of Long Beach yesterday.

The three shared a house together in the Bay Area city of Richmond. Since then, Ramirez has stayed with them periodically at most recently last Saturday.

"We trusted him enough to let him live in our house," said Earl Gregg. "I guess I didn't know him that well."

I knew he had problems," he added. "I became more convinced Ramirez was the suspect. They told police about some jewelry Ramirez had just given Myers. The couple said Ramirez had drug problems which escalated in recent years, surmising that the items were stolen.

The jewelry was traced to the Aug. 15 burglary of a home in the Marina district of San Francisco. Authorities said that information provided a crucial break in linking Ramirez to the Night Stalker crimes.

Although he and his wife had seen the widely distributed composite of the Night Stalker suspect and noted coincidences that led them to believe it might be Ramirez, Gregg said at first he didn't think his friend was really a fugitive killer.

The sketch looked a lot older, Gregg said. "The chin's not the same. His hair's not that curly."

But the possibility Ramirez might be the Night Stalker became a topic of conversation among the Greggs and other family members who knew him. At one point, Gregg asked his mother-in-law if Ramirez could be the killer, he said.

Myers replied: "No, I don't think he'd do it." But following Pan's murder, the couple

became more convinced Ramirez was the suspect. They told police about some jewelry Ramirez had just given Myers. The couple said Ramirez had drug problems which escalated in recent years, surmising that the items were stolen.

The jewelry was traced to the Aug. 15 burglary of a home in the Marina district of San Francisco. Authorities said that information provided a crucial break in linking Ramirez to the Night Stalker crimes.

The Greggs said Ramirez blundered when he gave Myers the jewelry, but, because one of the items was identified through a driver's license number engraved on it, they speculated the suspect must have known the gift would lead to his arrest.

Why else give jewelry away that could be traced back to him unless he wanted to get caught? said Earl Gregg.

During the 35-minute news conference, Gregg said he had no plans to contact Ramirez. But if called to testify, he would make an effort to visit his friend, he said.

"I'd ask him, 'Rick, did you do it? Are you mad at me?'"

Evidence sought in Stalker case

Ramirez's ex-roommate says, 'I knew he had a problem'

Associated Press

The lawyer representing Richard Ramirez, the drifter accused of terrorizing the state with the murderous "Night Stalker" attacks, said he's approaching the case no differently than any other.

Deputy Public Defender Allen R. Adashek, who has been besieged for comment about the notorious case, refused to discuss his conversations with Ramirez or the evidence against him.

"I'm trying to take it a day at a time and take things as they come," he said. "That's all I can do. I keep my personal feelings out of it and represent the client the best I can whether it's a misdemeanor or a multiple felony case."

The search for weapons used in dozens of attacks by the serial killer escalated Friday as authorities in several states worked to link unsolved crimes to the Stalker.

Ramirez, 25, has been charged in one of the Los Angeles slayings and served with an arrest warrant stemming from a San Francisco killing.

Both homicides, along with 12 others this year and another last year, were blamed on the Night Stalker, who stormed the state,

attacking random victims with guns, knives and club-like instruments.

Earl Gregg Jr., 25, a former roommate of Ramirez, told reporters Friday that he was unaware of any satanic leanings by Ramirez but he seemed to like the heavy-metal rock group AC-DC whose songs contain satanic images.

"As far as I knew, he wasn't worshipping the devil," Gregg said at a news conference in Lompoc, 140 miles northwest of Los Angeles. "He liked AC-DC. I heard him say anti-Christ, devil child. That's what AC-DC stands for."

Gregg said Ramirez, whom he knew only as Rick, lived with him, his wife and mother-in-law from May to October 1980.

"There's a little lunatic in everybody," Gregg said. "I knew he had a problem, but I didn't think he had many problems."

Gregg said he didn't notice a pentagram, frequently used by satanists, tattooed on Ramirez' hand.

"I don't go around looking at a guy's tattoo," Gregg said. "My mother-in-law pointed out that it was a witch's star."

Since Ramirez' arrest Aug. 31, police and sheriff's deputies have been hunting for

weapons believed discarded as Ramirez fled from a group of East Los Angeles residents who eventually beat him to the ground and held him for officers.

Los Angeles police Officer Dan Rodriguez said Ramirez made incriminating statements and voiced remorse when he was arrested, but Rodriguez declined to describe the statements.

"At one point, he raised his head and looked around toward the crowd and lowered his head and said, 'I'm glad you got me,'" Rodriguez, 41, said.

Elsewhere in the West, Santa Fe, N.M., police were comparing evidence from two killings there with information provided by Los Angeles detectives, police Chief Assistant Dave Leyba said. "As of now we are investigating a couple of female-involved homicides."

Arizona police in Phoenix and Tucson were also looking into unsolved killings, and Salt Lake City police Detective John Johnson said his department was investigating possible links between the Night Stalker and a stabbing death in May.

Police in San Diego and Reno, Nev., said they planned to wait until Los Angeles au-

Search for the Stalker

—Unity Born of Fear

*"It will take a combination of police and citizen effort to break this case. . . .
Be our eyes out there."*

—Monterey Park Police Chief Jon D. Elder, July 11, 1985

By CAROL McGRAW and DAVID FREED, *Times Staff Writers*

And that's the way it happened: The police and the community together stalked the Night Stalker.

As the killer blazed a trail of violence from the Southland to San Francisco, homicide detectives relied on high-tech crime analysis, old-fashioned shoe leather and their own gut hunches to track him. But it was the public's survival instincts—and more than a little luck—that finally snared a suspect—Richard Ramirez, a 25-year-old Texas drifter—to end one of the most intense manhunts in California history.

It was a race against death. Police feared that the stalker would strike again; citizens feared that they might be next.

While detectives, desperate for leads, scrutinized thousands of clues, tipsters called in thousands more. While policemen staked out Skid Row hotels and a Chinatown dentist, homeowners patrolled their own backyards and alleys.

As investigators questioned construction workers and searched remote hillside farms for distinctive tennis shoe prints left by the stalker, families turned on floodlights, barricaded doors and bought guns. And eight days ago, as a panicked Ramirez fled through the streets of East Los Angeles after glimpsing his picture in a newspaper, citizens using their fists and a steel rod caught up with him first, minutes ahead of the lawmen.

Detectives hugged each other and hundreds of bystanders cheered as the suspect was hauled off to jail.

Last Tuesday, Ramirez was arraigned on a single murder count and seven other charges stemming from two late-night attacks in early May in the San Gabriel Valley. Authorities in San Francisco charged him with an Aug. 17 murder there. Ramirez has not yet entered pleas to these charges.

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STALKER: Public Aided Law E

Continued from Page 1

The stalker investigation, even larger than the infamous 1977-79 Hillside Strangler case, was puzzling from the start.

Unlike other serial murder cases, this one seemed to have no distinct pattern.

At least 15 people died in the stalker's bloody rampage, which may have begun as early as 1981, investigators believe. At least 21 victims survived his assaults.

Prowling the freeway corridors of Los Angeles and beyond, the stalker preyed upon businessmen, Asian immigrants, grandmothers and retired couples. He kidnaped children off streets and sexually assaulted them; he dragged one woman from her car and shot her repeatedly. Most often, he crept into tidy tract homes through unlocked windows and doors before dawn, cut telephone wires and attacked his victims while they slept.

In serene middle-class neighborhoods, he killed men first, then turned to their women. He bludgeoned, slashed throats, raped, sodomized and shot his prey, using .22-caliber and .25-caliber pistols—easily concealed weapons that make relatively little noise, police said.

Wearing soft cotton gloves, he also killed and maimed with a tire iron and a claw hammer. Some victims were handcuffed to door knobs or bound with electrical extension cords and brutalized.

Afterward, according to a police source, the stalker "stuck the shiv in even further," casually snacking on leftovers in the kitchens of some victims. He raped one woman and then ordered her to cook him a meal. He gouged out the eyes of another victim.

He sometimes stole their jewelry, television sets, cameras and even their suitcases.

Police first suspected in April that at least four unsolved murders in the San Gabriel Valley had been committed by the same killer. It was four more months, however, before authorities publicly disclosed their ominous suspicions: that a serial killer was on the loose.

For Lt. Joe Santoro of the Monterey Park Police Department, the suspicions became reality July 7, with the investigation of the murder of Joyce Nelson, a 61-year-old grandmother and assembly line worker found beaten to death in her modest white-shuttered home.

"When we went out to the Nelson house, we all had a sick feeling that these were not coincidences, there was someone really terrible and bad out there killing and killing and killing," Santoro said.

Monterey Park Police Chief Jon D. Elder and Los Angeles County Sheriff Sherman Block talked urgently by phone that day—and the concept of a multiagency task force to investigate the string of murders

was born. A few nights later, Elder addressed a jammed City Council chambers to plead with 650 anxious residents, "It will take a combination of police and citizen efforts to break the case," he said. "Help us. Be our eyes out there."

Obsessed with the case, Elder worked behind his desk during the day and went out on patrol at night.

"Even we didn't understand completely at that time what would come from the unity of the people, and the law enforcement agencies," Santoro recalled.

It came to be known as the Night Stalker Task Force, but that was a misnomer. They cooperated, but the more than 60 detectives assigned to the case from police agencies throughout Los Angeles County did not work out of the same squad room. There was no central headquarters, no single commander.

Homicide detectives are regarded by their peers as an egotistical, fiercely independent lot, loyal to their departments. Those traits held true in the massive hunt for the stalker.

The 20 Los Angeles police officers assigned to stalker-related murders in the city pursued their own leads, as did the 35 detectives from the Sheriff's Department. Investigators from Glendale, Monrovia, Monterey Park, Whittier, San Gabriel and Arcadia performed similarly.

"It's not a task force really," Cmdr. William Booth, a Los Angeles Police Department spokesman, said early in the investigation. "We (the Police Department) have our group and they (the Sheriff's Department) have their group."

Nonetheless, with the Sheriff's Department coordinating efforts, investigators put aside interagency rivalries to compare notes. At first weekly, and later more often, they met in the Sheriff's Department Homicide Bureau to map their strategy.

The investigators, despite their different affiliations, developed few personal animosities. Sometimes, however, relations were strained.

Police chiefs from smaller departments participating in the case complained privately that the news media often were briefed by the Sheriff's Department and Los Angeles police before they could be told of the latest development in the fast-breaking investigation.

Communications between the Sheriff's Department and Police Department also seemed poorly coordinated at times.

At one point, Los Angeles police put out a bulletin announcing that they had linked three more murder cases to the stalker, bringing the number of victims to 17. Police refused to provide details on those new cases, except to say that one of the murders involved William Carns, a Mission Viejo man shot in the head in an attack on Aug 25.

Carns was not killed, however. He suffered grave head wounds

and remains hospitalized; his condition is reported to be improving.

"They made a boo-boo; they miscounted and added (non-fatal) assaults to the list of murders and then they wouldn't admit that they screwed up," said a Sheriff's Department source close to the investigation. "We had been saying all along that we had 14 murders at the time, but we backed them up anyway because we felt it was important not to show disunity."

Only last week did police officials back away from their earlier tally. "We're not going to talk numbers now," Booth told a reporter.

Jurisdictional rivalry even surfaced on the day Ramirez was caught by citizens in East Los



Los Angeles Times

Angeles, just outside Los Angeles city limits, in the Sheriff's Department patrol area. Ramirez was handcuffed by a lone deputy who had arrived on the scene moments before, but half a dozen Los Angeles police officers took the suspect into custody and drove him to the Police Department's Eppelbeck station.

"They made our guy look idiotic because they practically overpowered him and kidnaped his prisoner," said a ranking Sheriff's Department official. "We were all a little unhappy with that."

The Sheriff's Department also was privately miffed because the Police Department staged its own press conference immediately after the arrest.

Discord proved a rarity. If anything, authorities were too busy to squabble.

"There was a concern to get (the suspect) off the streets," said Capt. Robert Grimm, head of the Sheriff's Department Homicide Bureau. "Everyone became involved when they saw all the hurt, the wounds on the bodies, the devastation in the homes, what it was doing to the community."

Many investigators assigned to the case worked seven days a week, and 16-hour days were not uncommon. There were not many days off.

One veteran Sheriff's Department homicide detective, Sgt. Frank Salerno, "had to be kicked

STALKER: Public's Unity Born of Fear Aided in Capture of Suspect

Continued from Page 34

a fateful prediction: "I would suspect that this guy may wind up getting caught by a homeowner."

The investigation was by then moving in several directions.

For weeks, investigators had staked out a walk-in dental clinic in Los Angeles' Chinatown where a man identifying himself as Richard Mena had sought treatment for his decaying teeth. Authorities suspected early on that Mena might be the stalker.

That lead had developed June 15, when a man was stopped by Los Angeles police in the department's Northwest Division. He had been driving a stolen car and fled on foot, leaving behind a business card from the Chinatown dentist, who was able to provide authorities with the name Richard Mena.

Mena had visited the clinic six times from March to May 30. He had undergone root canal work and had temporary caps placed on some

of his teeth.

"He had terrible decay in most of his teeth, but it wasn't from disease," said Dr. Kenneth K. Tse, who heads the dental clinic. "It was from neglect."

Those who know Ramirez said after his arrest that he made meals of Pepsi and chocolate and never brushed his teeth.

Although detectives checked the Mena name through a myriad sources, they were unable to find the suspect. The name Mena, police eventually discovered, was only one of many used by Ramirez. Other aliases included Richard Moreno, Noah Jimenez, Nicholas Adame and Richard Munoz.

Although investigators hoped that he would return to the clinic for permanent dental caps, he did not.

Other leads were explored.

Los Angeles area pawnshops, particularly those in the San Gabriel Valley, were alerted in hopes that the stalker would try to sell

some of the more than 2,000 pieces of jewelry he had taken from his victims.

Several of the murder scenes were near construction sites, so detectives combed unsuccessfully through employee lists to see if the suspect might have worked as a laborer.

In late August, about a week before Ramirez's capture, authorities received another important tip from the public.

A Los Angeles resident told them that the stalker was named Rick and that he frequented Skid Row hotels. Lawmen began yet another stakeout, this time downtown.

It was 60 miles away on Aug. 25, in the Orange County community of Mission Viejo, that a 13-year-old boy gave police one of their most important leads.

The observant teen-ager, James Romero III, was in his parents' garage working on a motorbike when he spotted an orange Toyota

station wagon that he thought was suspicious. He called police and gave them a partial license number.

Ninety minutes later and a mile away, police believe, the stalker slipped into yet another house and shot William Carns in the head and raped his girlfriend.

The next morning, Jon Quinn Jr., who runs a health food store at 6th and Alexander streets west of downtown Los Angeles, spotted the car parked in the lot of his small shopping center. Quinn regularly takes down license plates of cars in the lot because of illegal parking there. On Tuesday, the car was still there and authorities were notified.

Four plainclothesmen staked out the Toyota until the next morning, hoping that the person who stole it would return. When he did not, it was taken by flatbed truck to Orange County Sheriff's Department facilities, where two of the latest scientific methods were used to retrieve evidence.

The first involved using Super-glue fumes, which react to moisture in fingerprints, turning the prints white. The other, a laser, enhances prints that are partly wiped clean. A partial print was found on a window of the station wagon and sent to the state De-

partment of Justice in Sacramento.

It was a fluke that Ramirez's fingerprints, taken in December 1984, after his arrest on stolen vehicle charges, showed up in the computer's memory banks. The only prints that have been fed into the new system are those of offenders born after Jan. 1, 1960. Ramirez was born on Feb. 25 of that year.

The same day the state's computer identified Ramirez's prints, a San Pablo woman told Lompoc police that her family had purchased jewelry in San Francisco from a man whom she knew only as Rick. The man, she said, matched a description of the stalker.

Police determined that the jewelry had been stolen Aug. 15 in a San Francisco burglary that occurred two days before San Francisco accountant Peter Pan, 66, was shot dead in a slaying that has been linked to the stalker.

The woman provided authorities with the names of two men who ultimately provided Ramirez's true identity.

That afternoon, Block, Los Angeles Police Chief Daryl F. Gates and Orange County Sheriff Brad Gates debated whether to release Ramirez's name and his police mug shot to the public.

Officials worried that the plan might have devastating effect on the case.

On one hand, they would be giving the killer an opportunity to flee and destroy evidence. On the other, the public had been unable to identify him from the composite drawing that was released more than a month earlier. Identifying him by name and picture could possibly lead to a quick arrest.

Less than 12 hours later, Ramirez walked into an East Los Angeles grocery store and saw his face on the front page of a Spanish-language newspaper. He fled, and within minutes everyone along his path seemed to recognize him and call police.

When he turned onto Hubbard Street, he tried to steal cars and hit one woman in the stomach in an attempt to get her keys. She screamed, and her husband and several neighbors took after the suspect, flaying him with a fence rod. Exhausted, Ramirez slumped to a curb; neighbors held him for police.

The partnership between authorities and the community had succeeded.

Times staff writers Mark Arax and Marita Hernandez contributed to this story.

ACLU Chief Will Resign to Fight on a New Front

By JACK JONES,
Times Staff Writer

Ramona Ripston said Tuesday that she will resign as executive director of the American Civil Liberties Union of Southern California to become an officer of television producer Norman Lear's organization opposing partisan political efforts by fundamentalist religious groups.

After 13 years in which she has been through numerous civil liberties legal battles and ideological contests within the ACLU itself, Ripston told her executive committee Tuesday night that she will leave the post Dec. 31 because "the time has come to move on."

She said she will become vice president for the Western region of People for the American Way, set up by Lear to combat what he sees as an attempt by right-wing preachers to break down the separation between church and state in order "to Christianize America."

Long Workweek

"Quite frankly," Ripston told The Times, "I have worked 70 to 80 hours a week for 13 years. You reach a point where you realize (the job) needs someone to work 70 to 80 hours a week."

She said her husband, Los Angeles Superior Court Judge Stanley Malone, had just telephoned her to find out what night of the week she would be free so he could have dinner with her. "It would be nice to spend more time with him," she said.

Policy arguments between the Southern California chapter and the national ACLU included one over how to share funds raised by the comparatively prosperous local affiliate and whether poverty constitutes a violation of an individual's civil rights.

She said Tuesday that there is no current dispute with the national organization and that "we are very close." The local affiliate and the national organization have a fund-sharing agreement and have settled a dispute over the local affiliate's opposition to a bill that

Please see RIPSTON, Page 2



Los Angeles Times

Ramona Ripston

Heroism questioned

What amuses me most about the capture of Richard Ramirez and the subsequent acclaim given those who chased and beat him through the streets and alleys of East L.A., is the fact that no one will hesitate to get personally involved if they catch someone stealing their car.

If chasing someone you observe stealing something that belongs to you makes you a hero, then we should have an annual "All-Heroes Day" and dedicate it to everybody in the world.

THOMAS JOSEPH
Hollywood

Al Ross/Rothco

TUESDAY'S AIR QUALITY

Hourly average pollution, 7 a.m. to 6 p.m.

— Ozone: invisible, irritates and impairs breathing
--- Nitrogen dioxide: brown, impairs breathing
.... Carbon monoxide: invisible, reduces blood oxygen

S = Clean air standard. (Blanks indicate missing data)
1 = 1st stage episode; air unhealthy for everyone
2 = 2nd stage episode; air hazardous for everyone
• Nitrogen dioxide and carbon monoxide not measured

Source: South Coast Air Quality

Trial: Night Stalker case reaching record proportions

Continued from Page A-1

felonies, including beatings, rapes, kidnapping, child molesting and robbery.

Buono, charged with 10 murders, was convicted of nine. During his trial, the prosecution called 269 witnesses; another 123 people testified for the defense.

Last week, Los Angeles Municipal Judge Candace Cooper scheduled a preliminary hearing for Ramirez on Feb. 24. His attorneys, who say they've just begun their own investigation, have declined comment on how they will conduct the case.

To get an idea of what the Ramirez case might be like, the Star-News interviewed several attorneys, investigators and judges who have worked on major murder trials.

"You end up realizing how many victims there are in a crime," said Inspector Stony Brook of the Santa Cruz County district attorney's office, who assisted prosecutors during 16 months of trial, in 1983-84, in the so-called Trailside Killer case.

David Carpenter, the accused Trailside Killer, currently faces a second trial in Marin County, involving the murders of several young women along hiking trails in Santa Cruz and Marin counties.

Attorneys, jurors and witnesses all become victims during an extended trial, said Brook — especially the survivors and other witnesses, "who will be taken through a long process, who will be called back (to tell their stories) again and again."

"This one was debilitating," added Brook, a veteran of many homicide investigations.

Brook and others on the prosecution side said they feel some major trials take longer than they should, for a variety of reasons.

In California, trial judges are especially likely to proceed slowly because state appellate courts have been known to grant reversals on a variety of technicalities, said Michael Nash, one of the Hillside Strangler prosecutors, who is now a Los Angeles Municipal Court judge.

"If you're walking on eggs, you're going to walk more slowly," Nash said, adding: "Sometimes ... justice delayed is justice thwarted."

But defense attorneys said there's a good reason to go slow, especially in a capital case. Ramirez is facing a possible death sentence, as did Buono, who eventually was given life imprisonment.

"If the state's going to take a

life, you want to make sure you're killing the right guy," said Michael Mendelson, a San Francisco attorney who helped defend mass murderer Juan Corona in his 1982 retrial.

Corona, whose second trial lasted seven months, is serving a life sentence for killing 25 farmworkers whose mutilated bodies were found in two peach orchards in 1971.

"We should judge how effective is our system of law by how much protection is afforded (to the accused), even in the most heinous of crimes," Mendelson said.

The Hillside Strangler trial cost the state and county more than \$2 million. Corona's retrial cost \$4.3 million. The price of extensive investigation, scientific analysis and expert witnesses can be high, in addition to the salaries of attorneys, bailiffs and other court personnel.

In Los Angeles County, a trial can cost about \$6,000 a day, said Frank Zolin, executive officer of the Los Angeles Superior Court.

Several factors can determine how long the Ramirez trial will take, if he is held for trial after his preliminary hearing.

■ Jury selection can take several months in a capital case. It took 54 court days, spread over three months, to select a jury in Buono's trial, and "I was congratulated (by other judges) on taking so little time," George said.

Under state court rulings aimed at ensuring an unprejudiced jury, each prospective juror in a capital case must be interviewed individually about his views on the death penalty. "Virtually the entire life history of the juror becomes open for examination," complained George, who has advocated shortening the process.

In some capital cases, as in the Trailside Killer case, the judge may opt to select two juries: one to decide guilt or innocence and one to decide the penalty if the defendant is found guilty. This can add time to the process.

■ The extent of physical evidence and witness testimony is a key factor once the trial begins. Authorities are barred by a court order from discussing the evidence against Ramirez, but it's known that at least part of the case is based on fingerprints, stolen property and ballistics tests.

The Strangler case was prolonged for several weeks by the contradictory testimony of Kenneth Bianchi; the man authorities believed to be Buono's accomplice. Bianchi agreed to

testify for the prosecution, then recanted and gave a number of conflicting statements.

Prosecutors often call more witnesses than the defense, because the prosecution has the burden of proof. Cross-examination of these witnesses is time-consuming but crucial to the defense, Mendelson said. "You have to strike at the vitals of their case."

■ Prosecutors must try to prove each charge, or count, individually. In Buono's case, several lesser charges were "severed" from the murder counts and were to be handled in a separate trial. This can shorten the process.

In Ramirez's case, defense attorneys Daniel and Arturo Hernandez have declined to say whether they will seek to sever the lesser charges from the murder counts.

■ Defense attorneys may ask to hold a highly publicized trial in a different part of the state. This can help lawyers pick an unbiased jury; the first Trailside Killer trial was held in Los Angeles for this reason.

But a change of venue also can add to expenses and logistical problems. "It's like trying to organize a family reunion for 70 people who don't even know each other," said Brook, the Santa Cruz investigator.

■ The trial judge must decide whether to set aside time each day to handle other cases, or try to speed things up by hearing only one trial from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. every day. Judges usually take the first option, with reason.

"I don't think the human mind can sit through (40 hours a week) and comprehend all the information that jurors must take in," said Gerald Chaleff, the lead defense attorney for Buono.

■ Police and prosecutors often complain that lengthy trials wreak havoc on witnesses' memories and their willingness to testify. Evidence also disappears.

During the Strangler trial, Buono's house was sold and the new owner had it razed. Most of the murders had been committed in Buono's spare bedroom.

But a long trial can be bad for the defense, too. Failing memories and lost evidence can hurt both sides, Chaleff said.

While jurors sometimes develop sympathy for the defendant over time, they may also become more cohesive as a group. This can make it easier for the stronger personalities to sway some doubters who might vote for acquittal, Mendelson said.

Justice panel approves overhauling

Night Stalker trial could reach record proportions

By BRANDON BAILEY
Staff Writer

Los Angeles Superior Court Judge Ronald George remembers well the advice of a colleague at the outset of the Hillside Strangler trial in 1981.

Don't let yourself get run down, the colleague told the judge. Take care of yourself physically, "because it's very easy to run down mentally."

So George started jogging in the morning, before he came to work. And as the trial of Glendale auto upholsterer Angelo Buono stretched over the next two years, it set the record as what is believed to be the longest criminal trial in the nation's history.

"I used to run several miles every day, just to pound the stress into the pavement," the judge remembers.

■ ■ ■

If authorities bring the so-called Night Stalker case to trial, there's a chance that a new record will be set. Attorneys on both sides say it could last one to two years.

While investigators have been close-mouthed about the evidence they have, the sheer magnitude of the case already is becoming apparent. Detectives have

several hundred pages of investigative reports. The prosecutor has told reporters he has a list of 300 witnesses.

Richard Ramirez, the young drifter accused of a crime spree that terrorized Los Angeles County this summer, is charged with 14 murders and 54 other

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Ramirez denied phone access

Associated Press

Richard Ramirez, accused of 14 "Night Stalker" slayings, is being denied access to Los Angeles County Jail telephones because of a court order requested by his own attorney.

Municipal Court Judge Elva Soper issued the restricted telephone access order Oct. 1, but it was not disclosed until Monday, when Ramirez's sister, Rosa Flores, complained about it.

Capt. Barry King, the jail's commanding officer, confirmed

Ramirez's telephone privileges were suspended.

"His phone privileges have been taken away from him by his attorney," Flores said in a telephone interview from her home in El Paso, Texas.

She contended Deputy Public Defender Allen Adashek sought the order as part of a continuing effort to keep Ramirez from expressing his displeasure with the way he is being represented. She earlier had contended that Ramirez wanted to tell the court

he desired another attorney.

In an unusual procedure, Ramirez did not appear at his own arraignment, instead listening to the proceedings over a loudspeaker in an adjacent holding cell.

Soper had said Ramirez was left in the lockup "for his benefit," and she declared following a closed conference in her chambers she had found "good cause" to grant Adashek's request to delay entry of Ramirez's plea until Oct. 17.

COUNTY/WEATHER

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PASADENA, CALIFORNIA, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 10, 1985

Ramirez hires attorney

Night Stalker defendant's plea date postponed

By BRANDON BAILEY
Staff Writer

Night Stalker defendant Richard Ramirez, accused of 15 murders and a long string of other violent crimes, hired a private defense attorney Wednesday to replace representation from the county Public Defender's office.

Los Angeles Municipal Judge Elva Soper approved the hiring of Oxnard attorney Joseph Gal-

legos and again postponed the date on which Ramirez will be asked to enter a plea.

Gallegos received permission to delay the plea until Oct. 22.

Ramirez's family has expressed dissatisfaction with the deputy public defenders assigned to the case. The dispute about who is representing Ramirez may not be over, however.

His sister, Rosa Flores, told reporters she wants her brother

represented by two San Jose attorneys she located with the help of famed San Francisco lawyer Melvin Belli.

At one point during the morning, six lawyers representing Ramirez or his family were in Soper's courtroom. After a private meeting with Ramirez, Gallegos and two deputy public

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Page A-5

mirrored sun

Ramirez: Accused killer gets new legal defense

Continued from Page A-1

defenders, Soper declined to let the San Jose attorneys speak in court.

Ramirez appeared briefly in court and spoke only twice. Wearing shackles, he answered "Yes" when Soper asked if he wanted to hire Gallegos and if he would agree to postponing his plea.

Also in court was Texas lawyer Manuel Barraza, who is working for Ramirez's family. Barraza and Flores said they learned only Monday that Gallegos was taking the case.

Gallegos, who said he has 21 years of experience in criminal law, told reporters he was first contacted by Deputy Public Defender Allen Adashek on Friday. The Oxnard attorney said he then met with Ramirez for two hours on Monday.

"He was encouraged. He seemed to radiate confidence," Gallegos said of Ramirez, a 25-year-old transient from Texas who is accused in the killings that terrorized California this summer.

Gallegos declined to say how Ramirez will pay the cost of his defense, which the attorney estimated could exceed \$100,000 during the trial, which is expected to be lengthy.

Soper said she held the in-chambers hearing with Ramirez to satisfy herself that he could pay for a private attorney.

Adashek could not be reached for comment Wednesday.

Outside Soper's courtroom, San Jose attorney Arturo Her-

nandez said he and attorney Daniel Hernandez (they are not related) had been retained by Ramirez's family to defend him.

Calling the hiring of Gallegos a "misunderstanding," Arturo Hernandez said: "As far as we're concerned, we are the attorneys for Mr. Ramirez."

Hernandez said he had been unable to meet with Ramirez that morning but would try again this week.

Ramirez's family also wants to hire psychiatrists to examine him, Barraza said. An insanity plea isn't planned, "but we'd like to make sure he's (mentally) competent," the Texas lawyer said.

Barraza, who said he helped locate the San Jose lawyers because he is not licensed to practice law in California, had been criticized by Adashek previously for speaking with reporters about the case.

In court Tuesday, Soper handed Barraza a copy of a gag order she has issued, but Barraza said the order prohibits him only from discussing evidence in the case.

Meanwhile, The Associated Press reported Tuesday that Gallegos was arrested in 1976 for firing a gun at a prostitute. He was convicted of attempted murder, the charge was reduced to assault with a deadly weapon and sentenced to probation without serving time in prison.

A spokeswoman for the state bar association said Tuesday that Gallegos was never disciplined by the bar and is currently in good standing.

Still unclear who will be Ramirez's lawyer

By BRANDON BAILEY
Staff Writer

Attorneys continued to squabble Thursday over the job of defending Night Stalker suspect Richard Ramirez.

A Texas lawyer hired by Ramirez's family told reporters that Ramirez has decided to fire the defense lawyer he hired the day before.

But defense lawyer Joseph Gallegos, who became Ramirez's attorney of record in a special court hearing Wednesday, said late Thursday that he's continuing to work on the case.

Ramirez, a 25-year-old transient, is charged with 15 brutal murders and a string of robberies, kidnappings and sexual assaults. He has not yet entered a plea on any of the 68 felony charges filed in Los Angeles Municipal Court or on additional charges authorities have filed in a San Francisco court.

With Ramirez's consent, Gallegos took over the case from the Los Angeles County Public Defender's office during a special hearing conducted Wednesday by Los Angeles Judge Elva Soper. But attorney Manuel Barraza of Texas told reporters after the hearing that Ramirez's sister had hired two lawyers from San Jose to defend her brother.

Ramirez's sister, Rosa Flores, said she and San Jose attorney Arturo Hernandez would try to visit Ramirez and convince him that he should be defended by Hernandez and attorney Daniel Hernandez. (The two attorneys

aren't related.)

Barraza has said he was retained by Ramirez's family to help look after Ramirez's interests.

Wire services quoted Barraza as saying that Ramirez decided Thursday to fire Gallegos after reading newspaper reports that the lawyer was convicted of assault in connection with a 1976 shooting incident.

Gallegos was sentenced to probation. He wasn't disciplined by the state bar association.

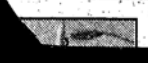
Speaking by telephone from his office in Oxnard, Gallegos said Thursday he hadn't heard from Ramirez since the previous day but that he was told to "handle this matter all the way through."

Although Judge Soper said Wednesday she was satisfied that Ramirez could pay for an attorney, it's not clear where Ramirez will get the money.

Gallegos told reporters his fees would be "substantial" for defending Ramirez in a trial that could last more than a year.

Barraza said the family planned to mortgage their home and raise defense funds "in bits and pieces."

If Ramirez is convicted, authorities say he would be subject to a state law barring him from profiting from or paying an attorney with money from the sale of his story. But Chief Assistant Attorney General Stephen White said it's not clear whether the California law would apply to Ramirez's relatives, who live in Texas.



Freedom rider

STALKER: 61 New Counts

Continued from Page 1

determined Thursday if Ramirez will plead to the new charges or seek a postponement until Adashek reviews the new allegations.

The earlier Los Angeles County charges involve the May 14 shooting death of William Doi, 65, of Monterey Park and a sexual assault on his wife, who survived.

In a second case, Ramirez was charged with robbing Clara Cecilia Hadsall and burglarizing her Monrovia home on May 9.

New Charges to Be Filed on Ramirez

By ROBERT W. STEWART,
Times Staff Writer

Sixty-one new felony charges, including at least 12 murder counts, are expected to be filed this morning against Night Stalker suspect Richard Ramirez, The Times learned Thursday.

Los Angeles County Dist. Atty. Ira Reiner is scheduled to announce the new charges during a 9 a.m. press conference at the Criminal Courts Building downtown.

The additional counts reportedly involve 18 separate incidents, according to sources familiar with details of the new criminal complaint.

Ramirez already faces eight felony charges, including one count of murder with special circumstances, involving two early morning attacks in the San Gabriel Valley last May. He is also charged with a murder in San Francisco.

Law enforcement officials have identified the 25-year-old drifter, originally from El Paso, as the chief suspect in the so-called Night Stalker slayings.

Authorities believe a single assailant killed as many as 15 people and assaulted nearly two dozen others in communities from Mission Viejo to San Francisco in attacks that could have begun as early as last year.

Could Face Death Penalty

Ramirez was captured Aug. 31 in East Los Angeles by angry residents who had spotted him as he allegedly tried to steal two autos. The capture came about 12 hours after Los Angeles County Sheriff Sherman Block identified Ramirez as the Night Stalker suspect and released his photo to newspapers and television stations.

Ramirez, who could face the death penalty if convicted, is being held without bail in County Jail.

J. Schuyler Sprowles, Reiner's press secretary, refused to confirm the specific number of new charges to be announced today. However, he said the number will be "substantial."

Ramirez's attorney, Deputy Public Defender Allen Adashek, declined to comment, citing a gag order imposed on attorneys in the case by Municipal Judge Elva R. Soper. The order was issued at Adashek's request.

Ramirez is due back in Municipal Court at 10:30 a.m. today to enter pleas to the original charges, which were filed Sept. 3. It could not be

Please see STALKER, Page 2

RAPE: Attack Not Believed Linked to 'Valley Intruder'

Continued from Page 1

are seeking be dubbed the "Valley Intruder." Others in the media searching for an appropriate moniker have labeled the wanted man the "Valley Invader," "Walk-in Killer" and "Night Stalker."

Whatever his label, the assailant gains entry through open windows and unlocked doors to attack sleeping victims. Nearly all of the residences where attacks have occurred were poorly lighted and unfenced.

Investigators from the Sheriff's Department and the Los Angeles, Arcadia, Glendale, Monrovia and Monterey Park police departments are participating in a manhunt that Block described as "far more complex" than that mounted in the Hillside Strangler murders of the late 1970s. Block said the six-agency task force is "growing every day" and probably now numbers more than 50 detectives.

The case thus far has baffled investigators, who invariably depend on a killer's *modus operandi*—a consistent pattern of behavior—to discover clues and make arrests. The pattern often involves a killer's preference for a particular type of weapon or victim.

"That's why this case is so mind-boggling," Block said. "There's no consistency at all."

Even in those cases where vic-

tims have been shot, a different gun apparently has been used, the sheriff noted.

The essential links between each episode have been the assailant's method of entry and the physical description offered by survivors and witnesses. The intruder has been described and depicted in a composite drawing as a thin man between 6 feet and 6 feet 2 inches tall and between 25 and 30 years of age. He has discolored front teeth that are widely gapped and curly brown hair.

In Sunday's incident, the elderly woman was attacked at about 5:30 a.m. in her one-story house. She did not get a good look at her assailant because he was wearing a mask, Block said. However, she described the man as considerably shorter than the individual wanted in the other crimes, he said.

The woman's description of his height—and the fact that the attacker did not exhibit a weapon, wore a mask and did not beat her—led investigators to discount the possibility that the crime was committed by the same person being sought by the task force, Block said.

Latest Attack Is Not Believed Tied to 'Valley Intruder'

By DAVID FREED, *Times Staff Writer*

The rape of an 84-year-old San Gabriel woman early Sunday may not have been the work of a late-night intruder being sought by a police task force in a county-wide series of slayings and assaults, authorities believe.

Despite initial speculation that the intruder had struck again, there were few similarities between Sunday's incident and earlier attacks in which people have been shot, stabbed, raped and bludgeoned in their homes, Los Angeles County Sheriff Sherman Block said Monday.

The elderly woman's description of her assailant, as well as methods the attacker used, "lead us to believe that it may not, and probably is not, related" to the six or more murders and as many as 13 other non-fatal assaults linked to one person, the sheriff said.

Many of the incidents—dating back to February—have taken place in the San Gabriel and San Fernando valleys, leading Block to suggest Monday that the man they

Please see RAPE, Page 3

MURDERS: Lone Suspect Sought in Area Slayings

Continued from Page 1

Neither the official nor detectives associated directly with the case would specify which murders were being investigated as part of a possible series.

Authorities said there are dissimilarities between the weapons and methods used in many of the attacks, as well as differences in descriptions of suspects made by survivors and witnesses. However, the frequency of the murders and the fact that entry was gained in each case through unlocked doors and windows leads some officials to believe that there may be a pattern.

Whether this view is bolstered by the existence of any physical evidence could not be learned.

The most recent attack came early Tuesday morning when an intruder awakened a Northridge man and his wife and shot both in the head with a small-caliber pistol before escaping as the wounded man gave chase.

The couple, Christopher and Virginia Petersen, were asleep when the assailant apparently entered the house through an unlocked back door. They were shot as they lay in bed.

Investigators said burglary was a probable motive in the break-in but noted that there was no indication that the house had been ransacked or that any items had been stolen.

Los Angeles police Detective Lewis Bobbitt said the investigation was being transferred to police headquarters downtown because "it may fit the patterns of other

crimes." He declined to be more specific.

The Petersens were released from the hospital Wednesday, and police called their escape from major injury after being shot at close range "amazing."

The couple provided authorities with only a sketchy description of their assailant: a man 6 feet tall, weighing about 150 pounds and with curly hair.

Thai Immigrant's Death

But the description was consistent with one released earlier this week by Los Angeles police in connection with the July 20 shooting death in Sun Valley of Thai immigrant Chainarong Khovanath.

Khovanath was killed as he lay sleeping; his wife and their 8-year-old son were beaten. About \$30,000 in jewels and cash were stolen by the suspect, who was seen driving away in a maroon-colored Pontiac Grand Prix with a damaged right fender.

The Khovanaths' attacker was described as 25 to 30 years old, 6 feet tall, 160 pounds, with curly brown hair. That description also matches one released by Monterey Park police of the suspect sought in the killing of four people and the beating or rape of four women in June and July.

Other cases being looked at are:

- Dayle Okazaki, 34, shot to death March 17 in his Rosemead apartment.

- Mabel Bell, 84, beaten to death June 2 in her Monrovia home. Her roommate, Florence Lang, 81, was badly beaten.

- Patty Elaine Higgins, 31, whose throat was slashed June 28 in her Arcadia home. She died in the attack.

- Mary Cannon, 75, another Arcadia resident who died June 28 in her home. Her throat was also slashed.

- A 16-year-old girl bludgeoned

in the head July 5 while asleep in her Sierra Madre home. She survived.

- Maxson Kneiding, 68, and his wife, Lela Ellen, 68, both shot to death July 20 in their Glendale home.

Police in at least three cities—Glendale, Monterey Park and Ar-

cadia—have held community meetings in recent weeks to assure anxious residents and explain methods to improve home security. The most recent meeting took place Wednesday night at a junior high school in Arcadia.

Neal Johnson, acting Arcadia police chief, told a gathering of more than 350 people that an interdepartmental task force of 25 officers is working together on solving the attacks.

Johnson said that he has received 30 calls a day from concerned citizens and, as a result, has beefed-up his night police patrols from five cars to eight. He said he also has hired five additional personnel to work in crime prevention programs.

Times staff writers Marc Igler, Carol McGraw, Thomas Omesad, Joel Sappell and Boris Yaro contributed to this article.

Diamond Bar Slaying May Be Latest in Series

By DAVID FREED
and CAROL McGRAW,
Times Staff Writers

A Diamond Bar man was shot to death and his wife assaulted in their bedroom early Thursday, apparently the latest victims in a countywide series of slayings that have sparked one of the largest law enforcement mobilizations since the infamous Hillside Strangler case in the late 1970s.

Los Angeles County Sheriff Sherman Block said investigators from six area police agencies believe they have linked at least six or seven killings since May to the same person—a curly haired man with discolored teeth who sneaks through unlocked windows and doors before dawn to attack his victims as they sleep.

Block said the slayings are among about 25 random assaults, including 12 or 13 killings, that may have been committed this year by the one man.

'A Killer Out There'

"There's definitely a killer out there," Block said at a press conference in his office. "Six or seven cases appear to be pretty clearly the work of the same individual. . . . Whether we're talking about a serial killer beyond the half-dozen or so, we don't know."

The series of slayings, in which victims have been shot, stabbed and bludgeoned, is being investigated by a task force of about 25 detectives, according to acting Arcadia Police Chief Neal Johnson. Arcadia is participating in the effort, along with the Sheriff's Department and the Los Angeles, Glendale, Monrovia and Monterey Park police departments, Block said.

Similar killings have occurred in each city in recent months. In some cases, houses have been burglarized; in others, women have been raped. The attacks apparently have been random.

Each department, Block said, has beefed up its street patrols because of the killings.

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KILLER: Latest Victim in Countywide Series

Continued from Page 1

Authorities identified the latest victims as Elyas Abowath, 35, who was fatally shot, and his wife, Sakina, 28, who was beaten. She was treated at a hospital and released. Their two sons, ages 3 years and 3 months, were not harmed.

Block said the couple were attacked about 4 a.m. as they slept in their house on a cul-de-sac in a quiet neighborhood of \$150,000 homes about 30 miles east of downtown Los Angeles. Their assailant apparently entered through an open back or side window.

Poorly Lighted, Unfenced

The house, on Pinehill Lane, was poorly lighted and unfenced, Block said. The couple had lived there for about seven years.

Abowath, who worked in the computer industry, was shot in the head apparently shortly after the killer entered the house. His wife was then assaulted. The slayer "did some ransacking" of the house before leaving, Block said.

Frightened neighbors huddled Thursday morning on the sidewalk in front of the house, watching coroner's assistants remove Abowath's body and wondering aloud why their neighborhood had been victimized.

"I thought we had got away from

all this," said one distraught woman, who had moved to the neighborhood only a month ago from the San Gabriel Valley, where at least four killings are believed to have been committed by the same man.

"I keep thinking that if I hadn't closed the window, it could have been us," the woman said. "I guess it would be silly to move again. There doesn't seem to be any way to move away from it."

Block said that the first of the related homicides may have occurred in the San Gabriel Valley. Since then, calls from citizens to the Sheriff's Department have increased by "200% to 300%," Block said. Heightened awareness among residents, as well as additional patrols, may explain why later killings occurred elsewhere, he speculated.

Northridge Attack

One non-fatal attack believed to be related to the slayings took place Tuesday in Northridge, where an intruder awakened a 38-year-old man and his wife and shot both of them in the head at close range with a small-caliber pistol before escaping as the wounded man gave chase.

The couple, Christopher and Virginia Petersen, gave investigators a description of their assailant that was similar to those offered by other survivors and witnesses. The

attacker, they said, was 25 to 30 years old, 6 feet tall and 160 pounds with curly brown hair.

Authorities said the killer's front teeth are badly stained and have a wide gap. The Northridge incident was not linked initially to Thursday's assault in Diamond Bar. But when pressed by reporters, Block admitted a connection.

"It appears that the person responsible for these acts . . . may be the person involved in similar incidents," Block said. "In all of the half-dozen of those cases, we have seen similarities that lead us to believe the same person or persons is responsible."

Specifics Withheld

Despite the similarities, police are puzzled by some characteristics.

"Victims run the gamut in age, from 16 to upper 60s—women living alone, women living together, couples," Block said. "There does not seem to be a uniformity of any kind in the type of victim."

Block would not specify which slayings and non-fatal assaults had been linked to one man. To do so, he said "would give people a false sense of security where there have been no attacks and would create hysteria in areas where there have been murders."

However, investigators theorize that victims may have included:

- William Doi, 65, of Monterey Park, shot to death and his wife assaulted on May 14.

- Mabel Bell, 84, of Monrovia, severely beaten June 2 and who later died. Her sister, Florence Lang, 81, also was badly beaten but survived.

- Patty Elaine Higgins, 32, found dead June 28 in her Arcadia home. Her throat had been slashed.

- Mary Cannon, 75, another Arcadia resident, found dead June 2 in her home with her throat slashed.

- Chainarong Khovanath, 32, shot to death in his Sun Valley home while sleeping. His wife was assaulted and their 8-year-old son beaten. A man was seen driving away in a maroon-colored Pontiac Grand Prix with a damaged right fender.

Block said that based on information investigators now have, chances are slim of solving the killings soon.

Homeowner With Gun

"Unless our investigation strikes a vein of gold, I would suspect that this guy may wind up getting caught by a homeowner with a gun," the sheriff said.

Detectives assigned to the task force from various police departments are not working out of a central office, but are exchanging information and tips on a regular basis, according to officials.

SLAYINGS

Continued from Page 1

bench near Wilcox Elementary School while waiting for an older sister. The girl told police she was carried away in a zippered garment bag. She was later sexually assaulted and dropped off in the Silver Lake area.

Two weeks later, on March 11, a 9-year-old Monterey Park boy was kidnaped from his home at night by a man and sexually assaulted. The man then left the child in Elysian Park, which is near Silver Lake.

On March 20, an Eagle Rock girl was kidnaped and sexually molested by a man who had broken into the family home at night, officials said.

"Certain facts that come out of these kidnappings and sexual assaults of children appear to be part of the mode of operation he displayed in later assaults and homicides," said Detective Randy Thomas of the Montebello Police Department, which is part of a task force investigating the slayings and assaults.

Puzzling Factors

"They are being looked at as part of a series of assaults prior to the first homicide in Rosemead," he said.

Another high-ranking police officer said that although there are many similarities between the assaults and slayings, it is the dissimilarities that confound investigators.

"The strange part is that he doesn't meet any profile we've ever seen," said the officer, who spoke on the condition that he not be named. "Guys that have worked 15 to 20 years investigating homicides are pulling their hair out over this. They say this is the most perplexing case they've ever worked on."

Block said the police task force is continuing to grow in manpower, but he would not elaborate.

It is known that at least 25 detectives from seven agencies are working together on the case. Those agencies include the Sheriff's Department and police departments from Los Angeles, Arcadia, Glendale, Monrovia, Montebello and Monterey Park.

Officers Now Believe at Least 6 Killings Are Linked to 1 Man

LA TIMES 8-10-85

By DAVID FREED and MARK ARAX, Times Staff Writers

The March 17 shooting death of a 35-year-old woman in her Rosemead condominium may have been the first in a countywide series of at least six slayings linked to a killer who enters unlocked homes at night to attack his victims as they sleep, authorities said Friday.

Homicide detectives investigating the unsolved killings believe that the slaying of Dayle Okazaki and the wounding of her roommate, Maria Hernandez, may have started the series of fatal attacks.

Los Angeles County sheriff's officials said Hernandez, 25, escaped after being accosted and shot in the hand by an intruder as she returned to her home on the night of March 17. Deputies responding to her call for help found Okazaki's body on the kitchen floor.

"That was the first (murder) case that (detectives) were able to link," Sheriff's Capt. William R. Hinkle said Friday.

Series of Assaults

Deputies later arrested a Colombian national, Miguel Angel Paez, who was released from sheriff's custody soon afterward. He was not charged and "had an excellent alibi," Hinkle said.

The man who attacked Okazaki and Hernandez may be responsible for 12 or 13 slayings and more than 15 other rapes, beatings and kidnappings, authorities have said. Of the nearly 30 cases, seven, including six homicides, are believed to be definitely linked to the same man, Los Angeles County Sheriff Sherman Block said.

Block said Friday that investigators have contacted the FBI in Washington to help prepare a psychological profile of the curly haired, gapped-tooth man who has been identified by survivors and witnesses of those seven cases.

Block noted that detectives this week received a "significant number" of telephone calls from people with information relating to the investigation after local newspapers published and television stations broadcast a police-issued drawing believed to resemble the killer.

However, Block had little hope of immediate progress in the case, and was grim when asked if he thought that the killer would strike again.

"There's nothing to think that he won't," Block said. "His intentions are to make it as difficult as possible for us."

Hinkle said investigators have been able to link the Okazaki slaying to the fatal beating June 2 in Monrovia of Mabel Bell, 84, and to the June 28 slaying in Arcadia of Patty Elaine Higgins, 32, whose throat was slashed. Other killings linked in the series include the June 2 throat slashing of Mary Cannon, 75, also in Arcadia; the shooting of Chainarong Khovanath, 32, at his home in Sun Valley; and Thursday's shooting of Elyas Abowath, 35, in his Diamond Bar bedroom.

Molestation Incidents

Investigators also believe that the non-fatal bludgeoning July 5 of a sleeping 16-year-old girl in Sierra Madre is linked to the same suspect, Hinkle said.

Meanwhile, police confirmed Friday that of the more than 15 brutal assaults being investigated, at least three include the kidnapping and sexual molestation of children. The abductions occurred during a three-week period beginning in February.

On Feb. 25, a 6-year-old Montebello girl was taken from a bus

Please see SLAYINGS, Page 3

Task force continues search for Night Stalker

Residents arm selves, bombard police with calls

By John Crust
Herald staff writer

A police task force is working over the weekend following leads in an effort to nab the deadly night prowler who has been stalking the San Fernando and San Gabriel valleys.

"There's nothing new," said sheriff's Sgt. Clinton Dillon. "We're following up on different clues, different phone calls where there is something like a description or anything."

The vicious killer, who enters darkened homes at night through unlocked doors or windows, is suspected of 14 attacks, including seven murders. Authorities note that the prowler may be linked to as many as 30 such incidents.

Victims have ranged in age from 16 to their 80s. The latest victim was Elyas Abowath, 35, of Diamond Bar. He died Thursday morning from a gunshot wound to the head. Abowath's wife, Sakina, 28, was beaten.

The sheriff's department and Los Angeles, Glendale, Monrovia, Arcadia and Monterey Park police are investigating the attacks. The police hunt is the largest local law enforcement investigation since the Hillside Strangler killings in 1977 and 1978, when at least 10 young women were kidnapped, raped and murdered.

Meanwhile, police have been bombarded with telephone calls from frightened residents seeking advice to protect themselves and from others who believe they've seen the killer.

"We're getting the type of call: 'I saw somebody last week looking like him,'" said Dillon, adding that he had received 40 telephone calls in a three-hour period.

"People are scared," said a Monterey

Park police dispatcher. "People want to know how they can secure their homes."

Concerned residents have been arming themselves since the string of attacks began in February, stretching from Northridge, 27 miles northwest of downtown Los Angeles, to Diamond Bar, about 30 miles east of downtown.

"My contacts with people on the street show concern is an understatement," said Monterey Park police Sgt. George Hicks. "The phone calls have been increasing. People want to know everything they can know about how the crimes are occurring."

Within the past five weeks, attendance at the Santa Anita Firing Range in Monrovia has jumped 150 percent.

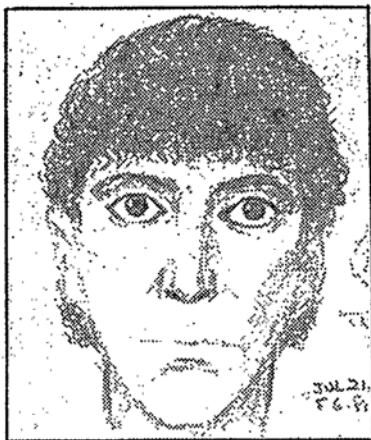
"We've noticed the increase in attendance at firearms classes and private classes," said manager Ralph Davis. "Thirty-five percent are females. Before it was strictly a male stronghold."

"People are frightened," he said. "They're coming here because they are afraid."

Investigators say the suspect enters the home through an unlocked window or sliding glass door and immediately seeks the sleeping occupants. The crimes have occurred in houses with poor, if any, outside lighting. Police believe the man prowls neighborhoods looking for homes with easy access.

The suspect believed to be linked to at least 14 attacks is described as white, possibly Hispanic, age 25 to 30, about 6 feet tall, with dark, curly hair and gapped, very discolored teeth.

Police said yesterday that Mary Rubenstein, the 32-year-old woman found dead in her Canoga Park apartment Friday night, is not linked to the series of slayings. The woman's husband, Gary Robert Rubenstein, 29, is being sought.



Daily News photo illustration

Composite drawing made of July 20 Sun Valley suspect resembles suspect in other attacks.

Task force hunts for serial killer

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Officials with both the sheriff's and Los Angeles police departments reported a number of leads — none strong — received from the public in response to a composite drawing of the assailant taken from a witness account after a recent Sun Valley slaying.

Based on accounts by surviving victims and witnesses, Block described the attacker as a young man with dark curly hair and discolored teeth. He has eluded capture by striking in diverse sections of metropolitan Los Angeles, prowling dimly lit neighborhoods during pre-dawn hours looking for homes with open windows and doors.

He has preyed on sleeping women, couples and families, using a gun, a knife or some blunt object to kill or injure his victims. He has raped some of his female victims, usually after killing their husbands, Block said.

In the latest incident, the assailant fatally shot the husband, then sexually assaulted his wife early Thursday morning in their Diamond Bar home. The killer entered through an open window, Block said.

He said the house, in a quiet neighborhood, was ransacked, indicating valuables probably were taken, as was the case in some of the other incidents.

During a similar attack July 20 at the Sun Valley home of Thai immigrants, about \$30,000 in jewelry and cash was taken.

The assailant fled in a maroon or dark-brown late-1970s Pontiac Grand Prix with a damaged right fender, the only getaway car seen in any of the attacks, Block said.

Serial killers not identical

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men and children in the homes he has struck, but the children, with one exception, were unharmed and the men are attacked before the women are assaulted. Not all the men or women have been killed.

He has shot several of his victims, another contrast with the usual profile of a serial killer. Stabbing and strangling are favored because "these are more personal," said Dr. Park Elliott Dietz, a psychiatric consultant to the FBI.

Psychologists said serial killers are much harder to explain than mass murderers — like James O. Huberty at San Ysidro — who suddenly snap after a divorce or loss of a job and kill several people in a single instance.

"There's a big difference between having a severe break (like Huberty who opened fire in a McDonald's restaurant) and serial murderers who are actually relieving a tension in themselves," said Dr. Richard G. Rap-

aport, a psychiatrist at Northwestern University in Illinois.

Psychologists, including LAPD behavioral sciences officers, said serial killers are antisocial and attack women — often sexually — for a feeling of power and domination.

Not all serial killers conform to that notion, however. "One killed women because he thought it would prevent natural disasters," said Dr. Barbara Star, a professor of social work at the University of Southern California.

Some psychologists said they believe clues to serial killers' motives are found in their childhood memories.

"One the surface they are charming, helpful, almost nice," said Dr. Helen Morrison, a psychiatrist who has done extensive interviews with seven serial killers.

"They're not bizarre. They don't foam at the mouth or have weird stares. They're not crazy or delusional. It's only when you

regress them (to a more childlike psychological stage) that you see how chaotic they are inside."

Background studies have found many serial killers were unwanted children, often abused. They often failed in school despite superior intelligence and showed early signs of violence — including arson, torturing animals and assaulting classmates.

"We actually know very little about the origins of sociopathy," Jack Levin, co-author of "Mass Murder: America's Growing Menace," said in a recent interview.

"Some psychiatrists think it's early childhood problems like abandonment or abuse, others think it's a genetic defect, still others think it's brain damage, after birth," he said.

"But, in fact, the evidence that it's any of these is flimsy. Millions of people in this country have terrible childhood problems and don't commit violent acts at all."

Elderly Woman Raped; May Be Victim of Man Sought in Killings

By T. W. McGARRY, Times Staff Writer

An 84-year-old San Gabriel woman was raped early Sunday by an intruder who entered her home through an open window, and a task force of law enforcement officers was trying to determine whether she is the latest victim of an attacker who is suspected in several killings.

The woman was hospitalized in good condition, the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department said.

Officers from six law enforcement agencies have joined to search for a suspected killer blamed for at least six—and possibly as many as 13—slayings in which victims were shot, bludgeoned or stabbed. Also under investigation as possible crimes by

the same suspect are at least 15 rapes, beatings and kidnappings in the last six months, including three cases in which children were abducted and sexually molested.

Most of the crimes occurred in the San Gabriel Valley. But cases under investigation range from Diamond Bar, in the eastern part of the county—where a man was shot to death and his wife assaulted Thursday—to Northridge in the San Fernando Valley, where a man and wife were awakened last Tuesday by an intruder who shot them both in the head. Both of the Northridge victims escaped with minor wounds.

In both cases last week, the

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RESEDA

RAPE: Elderly Woman Attacked

Continued from Page 1

victims were attacked by a man who entered their bedrooms late at night after getting into the house through an open door or window, a technique common to many of the crimes.

Sheriff's Department homicide detectives were investigating Sunday's rape "to determine if this incident is related to the other San Gabriel Valley assaults," a spokesman said. Unlike the other cases under investigation, the 84-year-old woman's attacker wore a mask; the spokesman said.

The woman was not beaten, he said. It was not revealed whether the attacker carried a weapon.

The case has been added to the possibly related crimes being investigated by a task force that

includes about 25 detectives from the Sheriff's Department and the Los Angeles, Arcadia, Glendale, Monrovia and Monterey Park police departments.

Sheriff Sherman Block told a news conference Thursday that "there's definitely a killer out there" and that "six or seven cases appear to be pretty clearly the work of the same individual." He warned against leaving windows or doors open or unlocked on warm nights.

Authorities made public a composite drawing of a suspect, assembled from victims' descriptions, of a man 25 to 30 years old, about 6 feet tall, weighing about 160 pounds, with curly brown hair and teeth that are badly stained and have a gap in front.

LA DAILY NEWS 8-11-85

Mindset of the serial killer: death for fun

By JAMES W. SWEENEY
Daily News Staff Writer

Typically, they are white males with above-average intelligence. They tend to be in their 30s — older than most criminals. Most of their victims are women.

Beyond that, Los Angeles police psychologists say characterizing serial killers — like the Son of Sam, the Hillside Strangler or the man suspected in an ongoing series of burglaries, assaults and murders throughout the county — is an inexact science.

"We don't know what goes on in his mind and why he chooses the people that he does," said an LAPD psychologist.

"Everybody wants to know what he's like," said Dr. John Stratton, the Los Angeles sheriff's department psychologist. "From past cases we know he might be like these other guys. Whatever we put together, you still have to look at everything else at the same time."

Experts from local law enforcement agencies as well as the FBI center on serial killers are trying to develop a psychological profile of a curly haired man with discolored teeth who is suspected of at least six killings and as many as 30 attacks since March in the San Fernando and San Gabriel valleys, and most recently Diamond Bar.

With few leads to follow, the

massive investigative team assembled for the case is hoping little clues to the mindset of the possible killer will help bring about his capture.

"Each one of them has an individual profile just like you or I have an individual profile," said a Los Angeles police psychologist.

For the most part, serial killers are not crazy, said James A. Fox, a criminologist at Northeastern University at Boston.

"They can choose not to kill," Fox said. "They want to kill. They kill for fun."

There have been 120 serial killers identified in the United States in the last 20 years. In 1983 alone, the FBI said 27 killers were responsible for 553 deaths — an average of 20.5 victims each.

Police and sheriff's psychologists are reluctant to discuss the series of killings they face in Los Angeles, but some facts about the suspect have been made public.

Victims in serial killings often are hitchhikers, prostitutes or bar patrons, but authorities said they believe the ongoing series of attacks is the work of a cat burglar who seeks dark homes with unlocked doors or windows.

His targets appear to be primarily women. There have been

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OPINION / editorials: let

Fear creates new hot commodity



Mary Welkert / Star-News

Fred L. Rodela, of Great Guns in Monrovia, with weapons that have become hot items in recent weeks

Deaths spark jump in lock, gun sales

By LAURA NICHOLSON
Staff Writer

Window locks, deadbolts and guns, including rifles and shotguns, are in demand in the San Gabriel Valley since news spread that five people had been killed and four women attacked in separate incidents during the past two months.

"They just want something to sleep at night," said Walter Wayne, owner of the Corner Gunsmith in Alhambra.

The demand for weapons is especially strong among single women and the elderly, he said.

The violence during the past two months has included the murder of four women, three of them elderly, and a man;

and attacks on four women, three of whom are elderly. Most of the women lived alone and were attacked during the early morning hours, but authorities are not convinced that the attacks are related.

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Page A-5

Fear: Area deaths spark increase in gun sales

Continued from Page A-1

Many women are purchasing a .38-caliber handgun for their homes and all customers are being referred to local ranges for training, said Fred L. Rodela, manager of Great Guns in Monrovia.

"It's got to the point they're buying rifles and shotguns just to have something in the house," Rodela said.

Rodela said he was seeing as many as 200 people a week right after the murders of Patty Elaine Higgins and Mary Lousie Cannon in Arcadia and the death of Mable Bell of Monrovia on July 15.

"I get a numerous amount of people... especially after a murder," he said.

The state requires the store to submit paperwork showing who purchased the gun and customers must show identification before the gun leaves the store, Rodela said.

Law enforcement officials have tried to dissuade people from purchasing guns because people often are shot accidentally or are disarmed themselves by a burglar.

Though not all businesses in the area are reporting increased sales in the wake of the murders, Wayne said 10 to 15 people a week are paying from \$90 to \$200 each to purchase weapons at his store.

"A shotgun is a very good home defense weapon," Wayne said. "You don't have to aim it. You just have to shoot it."

The people who are coming in, Wayne said, "seem to have done some homework" and are certain of what they want.

People are also certain of the need for window locks and deadbolts, purchasing both in record numbers.

"We've doubled our home security business," said Dan Farino, an employee of Frank's Lock and Key in Pasadena.

His business, he said, is installing locks in about 15 homes a week, primarily in Arcadia and Pasadena. They are also doing a lot of business sent as overflow from Arcadia Security Service, Williams Lock & Safe Co., Farino said.

"We're putting a lot of security deadbolts on," he said. "A lot of it is because they heard of the killer going around."

People are spending an average of \$100 to secure windows and doors, said Catherine Senn, an employee of Arcadia Security Service. The company is getting between 20 and 50 requests a week to replace locks, she said.

Some people are spending as little as \$1.99 for locks that slide into window tracks and screw in to keep the windows from moving, said James Bjordahl, a salesperson at Ole's in Monrovia.

The greatest demand has been for window locks, Bjordahl said.

But the window locks weren't selling too well Thursday, Bjordahl added. That was because Ole's had none left in stock.

Increase in home break-ins cited

By LAURA NICHOLSON
Staff Writer

A "substantial" increase in the number of home break-ins in the San Gabriel Valley has prompted Sheriff Sherman Block to warn residents to lock their doors and windows and report any suspicious activity.

"What has been significant is that because of the weather, I suppose, there seems to be a substantial number of entries into homes," the Los Angeles County sheriff said Wednesday. "The common thing is this easy access."

Block did not know how much of an increase there had been, but said that it appeared that there were more reports of burglaries at homes where windows and doors had been left open.

He urged residents to be especially alert during late-night and early morning hours, when the incidents seem more common.

The phenomenon is true throughout Los Angeles County, but that is the only similarity between break-ins and the recent series of attacks and sexual assaults in the San Gabriel Valley, Block said.

'What has been significant is that because of the weather, I suppose, there seems to be a substantial number of entries into homes. The common thing is this easy access.'

— Sheriff Sherman Block



Since May 14, five people have been killed and four others seriously injured in a wave of violence from Monrovia to Monterey Park.

The latest attack occurred July 7, when 60-year-old Joyce Nelson was found beaten to death in her Monterey Park home. On that same day, a 65-year-old woman was raped near Nelson's home.

The incidents took place three days after a 16-year-old girl was

beaten in her Sierra Madre home.

The attacks also include the beatings of two elderly sisters, one of whom later died. They were found in their Monrovia home June 1. Those attacks were followed by the murders of two women in Arcadia.

The attacks and murders could be the work of one person, Block said Wednesday.

He added that the substantial increase in break-ins did not

include a marked increase in murders.

During June and July of this year, there have been 48 murders investigated by sheriff's deputies, compared to 45 reports for the same period last year.

"Tremendous resources are being utilized in the San Gabriel Valley" to catch the person or people responsible for the attacks and murders, Block said, but he would not elaborate on what resources the department was using in its investigation.

Residents play a key role in catching someone, Block said, by reporting unusual activity in their neighborhoods, jotting down descriptions of unknown people and recording information about suspicious cars.

Too often, he said, neighbors hear things, including gun shots, and don't report their suspicions to police.

"We're telling people that they know best when something is out of place," Block said.

Local agencies have not shown a marked increase in the burglary rates at homes, but officials agreed that it is common for those rates to go up in the summer.

Los Angeles Times

Thursday, July 25, 1985

Los Angeles Times

'Guardians' Join Fight Against Rash of Crime

By SUE AVERY, *Times Staff Writer*

An overflow crowd of about 300 West San Gabriel Valley residents, frightened by a recent series of five murders and four assaults in their communities, turned out this week to welcome the Los Angeles-based Guardian Angels, who have been patrolling the streets of Sierra Madre, Arcadia and Monrovia for two weeks.

The Guardian Angels sponsored the meeting Monday night at Sierra Villa Park in Sierra Madre to introduce themselves to the community and to encourage formation of a chapter in the area.

The meeting had to be moved from inside a community building to the park to accommodate the crowd, which ranged from senior citizens to young mothers with babies in arms.

The Guardian Angels have been patrolling the three San Gabriel Valley cities from 9 p.m. to 3 a.m., said Scott McKeown, coordinator of the group in Los Angeles County. He said 16 to 25 members have been patrolling the area by foot and car.

'Continual Presence'

"This is the first time we have had a continual presence in the San Gabriel Valley," McKeown said. "We came here because we received calls from frightened residents asking us to help. And the response has been so positive that we stayed."

"Initially police officers were skeptical and we didn't want to alarm residents, but the reaction among citizens has been overwhelming. They are scared. We have been warmly received and I think we have dispelled some fears."

The Guardian Angels, who wear

red berets and T-shirts identifying themselves, organized as a volunteer group in 1979 to patrol subways in New York City. Members of the 59 chapters nationwide generally patrol in crime-ridden areas.

The Guardian Angels organized in the Southland in 1981 and there are now chapters in South-Central Los Angeles, the Westside and Hollywood. Members have also done limited patrolling in other areas confronted by serious crime problems.

Never Controversial

Lt. Dan Cook, spokesman for the Los Angeles Police Department, said the Guardian Angels have never been controversial in Los Angeles.

"They had bad publicity in New York," he said, "so when they arrived here we met with them because the idea was new here. They have never caused us any problems and it was never their intention to be a vigilante group."

"We regard them as an extension of Neighborhood Watch and appreciate their work. We have no objection to them being here because we need their help."

Because the group is known for its work in high-crime urban areas, McKeown said, the Guardian Angels needed to make themselves known to middle-class suburbanites who think of Guardian Angels as young inner-city toughs.

"We want to answer your questions about the Angels, because you may feel uncomfortable about us," he told the receptive crowd.

McKeown, an articulate, clean-cut-looking man, introduced himself as a 29-year-old vice president

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GUARDIANS: Angels Join Crime Campaign

Continued from Page 1

of marketing and sales for an electronics company.

"We volunteer our time," he said, "and we all either work or go to school."

He said the Guardian Angels is a nonprofit organization of trained volunteers that conducts unarmed patrols in high-crime areas.

The group serves chiefly as a visual deterrent, he said, but if members witness a serious crime they will make a citizen's arrest and detain the suspect until police arrive.

"We are not vigilantes," he said. "We don't carry weapons."

McKeown said he is interested in helping to start a chapter in the San Gabriel Valley. And at the end of the meeting, at which the group received a standing ovation, other Guardian Angels were swamped by residents offering their time, services and money in helping to set up a new chapter.

"We are participatory citizenship," McKeown said. "We no longer can leave the burden of safety to law enforcement authorities."

"It's time citizens take responsibility for themselves because the police can't handle the whole crime situation."

Although McKeown said his group has been well received by the police, only one police chief in the area, Bill Tubbs of Monrovia, was willing to comment on its presence in the area.

"We have no objection or ill feeling toward them as long as they conduct themselves in a lawful manner," he said. "I do feel they possibly have raised the level of fear in the community beyond what it might ordinarily be, but I have to assume their motivation is valid—that they are trying to do a service to the community."

Sierra Madre Police Chief Bill Betts said, "No comment," when asked about the presence of Guardian Angels in his city. And Neal Johnson, acting chief of the Arcadia Police Department, said, "Since I've had no contact with these people I have no comment."

McKeown said that although the main focus of the Guardian Angels program is foot patrol by younger people, the group has other divisions, including one that works with senior citizens. Another division handles car patrols by older members.

"We have a chapter in North Dallas located in a nice area with a

high burglary rate," McKeown said. "The average age of members in that chapter is 58, and instead of walking the streets, they patrol by car and radio. We want to encourage the formation of a similar chapter here."

"Neighborhood Watch doesn't work in some of your areas because you can't see the street from your house."

"So we want to encourage combination watch-patrols. With street patrols, the word spreads and then criminals won't hit the area."

Although the audience indicated its support of the group, residents also voiced concern about the group's membership, seeking assurance that members are law-abiding.

In response to a question about qualifications for membership in the group, McKeown said that a prospective member is required to provide at least three references. A criminal record could preclude membership in the group, he said.

"We have members who several years ago have been involved in gangs," he said. "But our prospective members go through rigorous training in martial arts and hand-cuffing, so this is a good weeding-out process."

Earlier, the Arcadia Police Department announced that it will hold a town meeting Aug. 7 at 7:30 p.m. at 1st Avenue Junior High School, 301 S. 1st Ave., to offer safety tips to residents and provide information on the two murders that have occurred in that city. The City Council has offered a \$5,000 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the murderers of Patty Elaine Higgins, 32, who was killed June 28, and Mary Cannon, 75, who was killed July 2. Both women, whose throats were slashed, lived alone and were attacked in their homes early in the morning.

The Sheriff's Department, seeking a link among those and other murders and attacks, is assisting local police in the investigation.

There have been two murders and two rapes in Monterey Park, one murder and one assault in Monrovia and one assault in Sierra Madre, all in the victims' homes.

The Monterey Park Police Department held a public meeting July 11 to discuss the situation, and on Tuesday, Pasadena held a public meeting to offer safety tips to frightened residents.

Residents welcome 'Angels'

Stress non-violent support for police

The Guardian Angels have called a meeting for Thursday, August 1 at 7 p.m., 332 N. Magnolia, Monrovia (the corner of Hillcrest and Magnolia).

The purpose of the meeting is "for people who want to learn how to conduct unarmed street patrols to guard against criminal assaults on innocent people or property." All San Gabriel Valley residents who are interested in such self-protection are invited to attend.

The communities of Sierra Madre, Pasadena, Arcadia and Monrovia registered a resounding approval of the presence of the Guardian Angels Monday evening when a huge crowd settled in at Sierra Madre Recreation Center to hear what these people in their red berets had to say.

The overflow crowd was so large that the group was moved to the patio where there was more standing room. And they were all ages, from high school students through the elderly who were supported by canes. They were there because of their concern for safety and they wanted to know what the Guardian Angels were all about.

As a follow-up Tuesday morning, The News interviewed Danny Lewis, who heads the Westside contingent of the Guardian Angels, and he stated, "I thought it was incredible that so many showed their concern and actually are interested in doing something. I am sifting through the many organization sheets we handed out and find interests in helping the elderly and handicapped, street patrols, auto patrols, CB auto patrols, and many who wish to contribute their skills such as secretarial work offering their computers, offering their backyards for training. Within the week we will have set up a special meeting for safety patrols and will try to recruit classes in self defense and the martial arts. We are also looking into CPR classes. There will be other follow-up meetings as soon as they are organized."

When asked if the huge crowd of over 300 indicated that a San Gabriel Valley contingent would be organized in this area, he answered affirmatively. "There is no question that we will have a chapter here. And as soon as we get this area organized so you can handle your patrols alone, we will go to the San Fernando Valley."

At Monday's meeting, Scott McKeown, Los Angeles County coordinator, said, referring to the recent rash of beatings and burglaries of area women, "It's too bad tragedy has to bring a community together." He explained the origin of the

Guardian Angels from their beginnings in New York City 6½ years ago when Curtis Sliwa first found it necessary to patrol around his McDonald stand in the S. Bronx area of New York City. There are now 59 chapters in the country both in urban and rural areas.

McKeown explained the need for the meeting: "To make ourselves available to the community, to answer questions, to encourage citizens to start patrols and Neighborhood Watch programs, and possibly to start a chapter in the San Gabriel Valley."

He continued, "We came here last Thursday because we had calls from the communities and about 20 of us have been patrolling every night in Arcadia, Sierra Madre and Monrovia. We believe in participatory citizenship — you can't leave the burden of safety on the authorities. There has been a very incredible jump in crime and the time has come for the citizens to take responsibility and not our overworked police departments."

He stressed that the Guardian Angels are not police officers. They attempt to add extra visual deterrence, he said.

"We are not vigilantes. We do not carry weapons. We use our eyes and our ears and our red berets. We are in concert with law enforcement. We don't have an image of tough guys. Down in Arizona, senior citizens patrol with cars and radios. In Texas there is a chapter in which the average age is 58 years. There are four in their late 70s," McKeown told the group.

Danny Lewis said, "The only permanent solution to street crime is to develop a program involving residents. Are you concerned about crime? We need to go beyond the 'I' and 'me' and look at awareness on the community level. The primary focus should be on safety patrols to guard against criminal assaults . . . All people who become Guardian Angels protect all citizens regardless of race, creed and background . . . We need to stop talking about what's wrong and do something . . . The presence of patrolling groups in a neighborhood does deter crime. It works."

He explained what it takes to get a chapter going: willingness to donate time and money, headquarter space, support service such as answering service, printing, typesetting, communication



OVERFLOW CROWD WELCOMES GUARDIAN ANGELS TO AREA — The crowd to hear the Guardian Angels in Sierra Madre Monday evening was so huge that the audience had to move out on the patio where there was more standing room. Here Scott McKeown and Danny Lewis of the civilian anti-crime patrol group discuss how the foothill communities can band together for safety.

Photo by Jeff Miedema

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Guardian Angels

Continued from page 3

equipment, secretarial skills, assistance in fund-raising.

Anyone who becomes a Guardian Angel must give three references which are carefully checked, and then he or she receives training. Ultimately, the person is given the beret and T-shirt from the New York office.

The Guardian Angels in Sierra Madre Monday evening were dressed in various ways, some native to the tastes of the San Gabriel Valley and others very different. There were girls with scarves around their heads, men with earrings, men with dress ties and shirts under their traditional T-shirts. And all came here for one reason: to volunteer their time patrolling streets against intruders.

They stressed one thing: Guardian Angels are only one answer. Join Neighborhood Watch programs and form police auxiliaries.

Anyone who would like to reach the Guardian Angels may contact them at 2554 Lincoln Blvd., #647, Venice, CA 90291. Their phone number is (213) 399-2473.

Residents learn to fight crime

By LAURA NICHOLSON
Staff Writer

About 50 Pasadena residents and a handful of people from Altadena, Sierra Madre and Monrovia attended a crime prevention meeting Tuesday that focused on how to avoid becoming a victim of nighttime burglars.

They were gathered at Lake Avenue Congregational Church because they had heard there had been a series of murders and attacks in the San Gabriel Valley.

"Pasadena has not been victimized by the series of crimes that has occurred, but we have been victimized by the fear (that it could happen)," said Pasadena Mayor William Bogaard.

But, "if there is any good

about the unpleasant series of crimes," Bogaard said, it is that people have become aware of their individual responsibility to provide security in their homes.

The crime prevention unit of the Pasadena Police Department, at (818) 405-4550, provides literature, home security checks and conducts security meetings for the public, said Crime Prevention Specialist Ronnie Nanning.

Nanning shared several tips about locks with the group, including a suggestion that louvered windows be glued into their tracks because they are so easy to remove. He also suggested drilling holes in window frames to insert bolts that provide added security for doors and windows.

The recent attacks included an assault on a 16-year-old girl in Sierra Madre; the murder of a 60-year-old woman in Monterey Park; the bludgeoning of two elderly sisters, one of whom died six weeks later, in Monrovia; and the murders of two

women in Arcadia.

Many in the audience did not know until Tuesday that they do not need to hang up the phone after calling police for them to send someone to help. If a person dials 911, it is OK to stay on the phone line because help is on the way.

The Bulletin Board

Events

Feature Film: "The Cat From Outer Space", today at the following branches: Linda Vista Branch, 10:30 a.m., San Rafael Branch, 1:30 p.m., Central Children's Room, 3:45 p.m., Hastings Branch, 7 p.m.

Creepy Crawlers: Thursday, La Pintoresca Branch Library, 1355 N. Raymond, Pasadena. For more information call (818) 797-1873.

Open House: The Alhambra Human Services Department is sponsoring an Open House Thursday to allow residents to view the plans on the \$400,000 project to renovate Granada Park. In the Granada Park Gym, 6-8 p.m. For information call (818) 570-5012.

Travelogue: Elaine Kelty will present, tonight, 7:30 p.m., Stately Homes of England and Scotland, at the San Gabriel Library, 500 S. Del Mar, San Gabriel. For more information call (818) 570-5012.

Update on area bludgeonings

Psychiatrist comments on suspect types

Deputy Lynda R. Edmonds of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Dept. told The News Tuesday that Mabel Bell of Monrovia died Monday as a result of injuries sustained in an attack on her and Florence Lang in their home at 443 N. Alta Vista Ave. Both women are in their 80s. Mrs. Lang is still alive at Methodist Hospital in Arcadia.

They were found June 1 about 11:30 a.m. after having been bludgeoned sometime within the two previous days.

Edmonds says there is no information about whether the women were sexually assaulted.

There is also no additional information linking the recent murder-bludgeonings within the past two months. Edmonds says the Sheriff's Dept. is releasing no information about whether the assaults and murders in the San Gabriel Valley within the past two months are related or have been committed by a suspect or suspects.

The composite shown nearby comes from the Monterey Park Police Dept. and has not been released by the Sheriff's Dept.

Edmonds says her department is checking leads and coordinating various investigations with each of the police departments involved which include Monrovia, Arcadia, Sierra Madre and Monterey Park.

The rash of bludgeonings and murders began with the two Monrovia women described above. Their home had been ransacked but there is no information about whether or not there had been sexual abuse.

Patty Elaine Higgins was found murdered in her home in Arcadia June 28. She had been bludgeoned and her throat was slit. There is no information concerning whether there was a burglary or if she was sexually abused.

Chronologically, the next murder took place at 310 E. Haven in Arcadia when Mary Cannon was found at 9:30 a.m. July 2. She died of bludgeoning injuries to her upper body and her throat was cut. There is no information about whether she was sexually abused. There had been a burglary and the home was ransacked.

The next case was a bludgeoning July 6 in

Sierra Madre in the 1100 block of Arno when a 16-year-old female was severely assaulted and was found at 5:45 a.m. She is in an undisclosed hospital. There is no information about whether she was sexually assaulted. At this time, property loss is unknown.

The following day, July 7, Joyce Lucille Nelson was found dead of multiple injuries to her head and neck in her 348 E. Arlight home in Monterey Park. She was apparently killed by a burglar in the early morning hours and the home had been ransacked. There is no evidence of sexual assault.

Sometime between 2 and 5:30 a.m. the same day, July 7, a 65-year-old woman was raped in her home about ¼-mile away from Nelson's home. She survived.

Edmonds says there are increased police patrols in all areas, including Monterey Park, Sierra Madre and Altadena.

As of Tuesday at presstime, no one is in custody and there have been no other incidents.

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Composite courtesy of Monterey Park P.D.

No news on suspects

According to Los Angeles sheriff's deputies, the investigation for the suspect or suspects who have been bludgeoning women in the upper San Gabriel Valley is continuing.

A suspect, Miguel Paez, was arrested and held for a short time and released. Authorities found no way of connecting him to any of the deaths.

The News will continue to report information as it is available.

Council deluged by citizens queries regarding 'Angels'

More time was taken during the community communications discussion before the Sierra Madre City Council meeting than during the rest of the regular meeting when residents appeared in opposition to the Guardian Angeles patrolling the foothill areas.

Elaine Rudolph said, "I'd prefer our Neighborhood Watch . . . I get call after call about 'savior of our city.' These people have to be screened . . . They're a fine group on the West side but let them stay on their side. I'm concerned whether this is for Sierra Madre . . . I'd feel better if it were our people."

Margaret Buckner pointed a finger at the media for covering the recent crime wave and called the Guardian Angeles "vigilantes." She continued, "I talked to the sheriff's office. They (the Guardian Angeles) have not accomplished anything in our community. At last night's meeting I saw some real characters . . . It's a great name, 'Guardian Angel',

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Council deluged

Continued from Page 1

but are they truly Guardian Angels? They are not only recruiting but also recruiting money. I'm wondering if these same people (who give money to the Angels) would vote for a tax increase to give the police pay raises. Anyone can put on a red beret or a white T-shirt. I can't believe we're safe from someone imitating the Guardian Angels . . . Unfortunately we have a slight panic in our town. Please see what you can do to get rid of the Guardian Angels."

Mark Burns of Pasadena, a former resident of Sierra Madre, voiced concern over the "well-being of the kids physically and emotionally. Men and women 16 and older are eligible to apply. They may be immature or unskilled . . . It's the job of citizens to look out for dangerous offenders. We give our authority to the police force who have the equipment to handle dangerous situations. Kids are incompetent to handle situations."

Mary Stetson asked if the city has insurance to cover any incidents that might take place concerning the Guardian Angels.

Scott McKeown, Los Angeles County coordinator for the Guardian Angels, appeared while the council was out for a personnel meeting and later answered questions from council members such as

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Council deluged

Continued from page 8

how long do they expect to be in Sierra Madre. He answered that they wish "to get local residents involved then we move out." He explained that he was at work Tuesday evening and could not get up here earlier.

He said, "You don't need traditional patrols here. Our intention is not coming in as outsiders. We are here to address the crisis that has lasted for two months. There is fear going through the community, not just in Sierra Madre. We are out here to address that."

Are they a tax exempt corporation? Yes, they have a tax number, and money gifts are tax deductible.

What do they intend to do in Sierra Madre? They plan to start a San Gabriel Valley Group which will serve any community in that particular area if needed. "A regular patrol would not be of much value in Sierra Madre."

How long is the training period? Three weeks to three months. The training is difficult with martial arts for their own protection since they carry no weapons, special training with a retired policeman, CPR, First Aid. And each person must have a community project to complete.

How are they dealing with the problems here? By walking the streets, being a visual deterrent to who's doing the crimes.

McKeown said the response had been "quite good. People are thanking us. Seniors are staying up all night. They are greatly relieved to see us."

Temple City serenity shattered by killings

Temple/Continued from A-3

nearby San Gabriel, get home before dark, keep their radio on at night and go to bed afraid.

"Before this happened, I felt gutsy being alone," said Walker, 41. "I thought I could do everything alone. I'm an independent woman. It makes you angry something is out there affecting you in this way."

Residents in the towns near here tend to blend together. An Arcadia resident may work in El Monte, eat lunch in Rosemead and see a movie in San Gabriel. So an attack in the area, regardless of the city, strikes at everyone.

At the Santa Anita Shooting Range in Monrovia, attendance is up since the attacks started, according to owners. Virginia Holdinski of Duarte began target practice after the Night Stalker killed someone three blocks from her sister's Arcadia home.

"I think it's unreal this person has a right to violate my feelings and my privacy," she said. "That animal kills people. I wish all the women could take this training."

In Temple City — which has not been the site of any of the recent assaults, although incidents have been reported in several adjacent communities — the Chamber of Commerce last week sponsored a funcheon program on "personal safety awareness." More than 70 people attended.

"There is an awareness and a great concern," said chamber manager Marianne Milch. "This is the first time we've really had anything like this."

The Temple City sheriff's sta-

tion, which works with more than 200 Neighborhood Watch groups, has received a steady stream of requests recently from residents wanting to organize their blocks. Nina Carlisle of San Gabriel and her neighbors plan to meet tomorrow night to unite in the wake of the ongoing attacks.

"I don't like living in fear and that's what I've been doing," Carlisle said. "To all of a sudden be threatened by this has created a lot of tension."

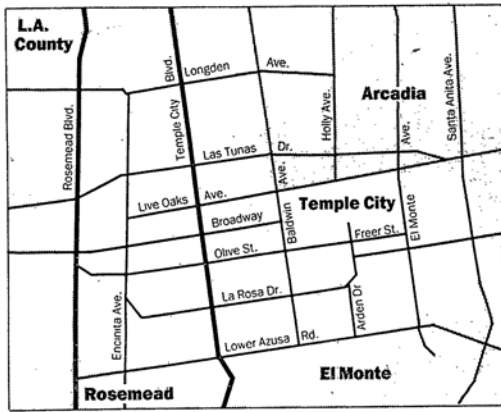
At least 14 of the recent attacks, including seven murders, have been linked to the Night Stalker, who enters darkened houses through unlocked doors or windows and heads straight for the occupants. Victims have been shot to death, knifed and bludgeoned. Some of the women have been raped.

The attacks have led to the largest local law enforcement investigation since the Hillside Strangler slayings in 1977 and 1978. More than 50 detectives from six agencies are working on the case.

Hardware stores here report marked increases in sales as residents rush to secure their homes. At McVey Hardware, on one of Temple City's few main streets, lock sales are up "more than 100 percent, easy," said owner Steve McVey.

"People come in and want to know what we advise, what's practical," McVey said. "They don't want any gimmicks."

McVey, a longtime local businessman, said the attacks have made him and his family much more aware of locking their house. While he recognizes that major



Map above shows Temple City boundaries and main streets. At right, the city's location in San Gabriel Valley and surrounding communities.

crime has made its way to Temple City in a big way, he calls the spate of attacks "an exception."

"Every town has something like this once in a blue moon," he said. "It's too bad, but it's the day and age."

In recent weeks, authorities have received hundreds of tips from residents who think they've seen the suspect. The man has been described as Anglo or Hispanic, age 25 to 30, about 6 feet tall with curly hair and discolored, gapped teeth.

"We're having an overreaction of calls, which is good," Sgt. Gomez said. "There's just much more awareness of any stranger or any strange vehicles in a neighborhood."

"There's a general concern and rightfully there should be," he said. "I don't think it's paranoia and I don't think it's panic."



For some residents, like Renee and Dave Rutan of Duarte, worries about an intruder are alleviated by adequate locks, a pit bull and a .357 Magnum. But their fears don't go away completely.

"It's scary," said Renee. "Our daughter Donna, who's 11, said she wants to move to some place that's not so scary. I told her there is no place like that any more. We just say our prayers and hope they get him."

Herald staff writer Timothy Carlson contributed to this article.

Night Stalker attack in Santa Monica?

Woman assaulted, slain in apartment

By John Crust
Herald staff writer

Concerned Santa Monica residents were calling police yesterday after a woman in the seaside city was sexually assaulted and killed in an attack strongly resembling the seven recent slayings linked to the Night Stalker.

"People have called," said Santa Monica police dispatcher Debbie Tenney. "They're scared. They're concerned it happened in the area. They feel it could be the Night Stalker in the valley. We've been telling them the evidence hasn't been processed and he's not linked at this time."

The Night Stalker, who gains entry through an unlocked window or door late at night, has been linked to at least seven killings and up to 30 attacks primarily in the San Fernando and San Gabriel valleys. A multi-police department task force — the largest since the Hillside Strangler killings in 1977 and 1978 — has been investigating the wave of attacks.

Yesterday's assailant entered the woman's apartment in the early morning hours through a sliding glass door on a balcony overlooking the 1400 block of 14th Street. Santa Monica police Sgt. Bill Brucker did not know how the woman was killed or whether the door was unlocked.

The woman, believed to be in her 50s, was at home alone. Her name was not released because her family had not been notified.

"I came down this morning," said a 34-year-old woman who lives in a neighboring apartment building. "I saw the yellow tape and the police. It was quite a shock. She was a very nice woman."

The neighbor, afraid to give her name, said residents fear the killer could be the Night Stalker. She said residents are now bolting windows and doors, adding that many people until now believed such fears could be confined to the valleys.

"It hit a little close to home," she said.

"Anyone would be scared," said Tenney. "Everyone wanted to know if this was linked to all those killings in the valley. It happened in Santa Monica, right away they think it's him."

The neighbor, who would not identify the victim, said the woman's teen-age son yesterday returned from a six-week vacation in New Zealand where he was visiting relatives.

"He saved up his money and she helped him," the neighbor said. "She was going to pick him up (yesterday from the airport)."

Brucker said a woman who was to go on an errand with the victim telephoned authorities when she could not reach the victim shortly after 9 a.m.

Homicide detectives have information on the Night Stalker from the task force investigating the wave of attacks.

"We are aware of the incident," said sheriff's Deputy Jerome Beck, but said the task force has not been asked to help in the investigation.

Temple City shaken by Night Stalker

Brutal attacks shatter peace of community

By Mark S. Warnick
Herald staff writer

With its grassy back yards, quiet tree-lined streets and absence of parking meters, Temple City could pose for a picture of America in the '50s.

But it feels like America in the '80s. For many of Temple City's 30,000 residents and others in the San Gabriel Valley, the past few months have offered a shocking reminder that brutal, senseless crime doesn't ignore idyllic suburban cities like theirs.

A wave of approximately 30 violent attacks — nearly half of them already linked to the so-called Night Stalker — has disrupted their lives. Residents tell authorities they won't go out at night. In some homes, children sleep in their parents' bedroom. On hot, humid evenings, windows are shut and locked as homeowners forgo comfort for safety.

"These are residential, bedroom-type communities," said Sgt. Frank Gomez of the sheriff's department's Temple City station. "This is disruptive, to say the least."

Because of the Night Stalker's methods, authorities have instructed residents to lock all doors and windows at night and install adequate outside lighting. In some places, such advice would be redundant. In Temple City, many people never worried about those things.

"It was just easier before," said Pam Chapler, 17. "I didn't ever feel scared. Temple City is like the safest place on Earth. Not any more, obviously."

Chapler, whose parents are contemplating buying a gun as the search for the Night Stalker continues, last week attended a class on how to use Mace. At her home, the doors are locked with a dead-bolt for the first time, even during the day.

"It's scary," she said. "I don't even want to be anywhere alone."

Such thoughts are unusual in this town, 13 miles northeast of Los Angeles. Since its incorporation in 1960, Temple City has been known as a quiet, peaceful community, a Norman Rockwell painting come to life.

From the start, according to Mayor Bill Dennis, the city's philosophy has been to maintain a family oriented residential community.

Change is slow and subtle and likely won't ever be significant. The town covers less than 4 square miles, has little vacant land and no room for more industrial growth.

"Temple City is a bedroom community, very family oriented and youth-oriented," said Dennis, a lifelong resident. "We have a relatively low crime rate."

"When something like this does happen, it's probably more evident than in many cities that take something like this as a more common fact," he said.

The series of violent murders and assaults in the San Gabriel and San Fernando valleys has prompted many residents to purchase guns and home-security systems, register for pistol-training classes and, in many cases, live in a state of perpetual fear.

"I never before kept lights on while I slept," said Tracy Tschanz, 25, explaining that she's more afraid than ever. "But you start to freak yourself out. You believe you're hearing noises."

Anger over the attacks stems not only from obvious disgust with the killings but also strong resentment over the extent to which previously serene lives have been altered.

"I hate him for creating this fear in me," said Tschanz.

Many people, like Adele Walker of



L.A. County sheriff's Deputy Bill Phelton patrols late at night in Temple City, where attacks by the Night Stalker have caused rising fear in community.

New Guardian Angels chapter formed by valley residents begins night patrols

By John Crust
Herald staff writer

Robert Kirkpatrick and Tim Stegeman flashed white beams of light into the early morning darkness as Jim Sherwood drove at a snail's pace down a quiet San Gabriel Valley residential street.

It was shortly after 2 a.m. Thursday and the three valley residents were patrolling neighborhoods, knowing that the so-called Night Stalker could be lurking in the shadows.

"Slow down," said Kirkpatrick. "Back up. I saw something on the steps."

Kirkpatrick shined his flashlight up the stairs on the side of a building.

"A plant," said the 16-year-old Monrovia youth.

At another location, the three spotted someone in a dark car.

"Two people making out," said Kirkpatrick.

It was pretty quiet, but they were alert — for suspicious individuals sitting in dark cars or wandering around homes.

The trio are among more than 40 residents who have formed a Guardian Angels chapter since seven murders and up to 30 attacks in the San Fernando and San Gabriel valleys have been linked to the Night Stalker.

"I have to be at work at 8 in the morning, but this is something I want to do," said Sherwood, 25, of Arcadia. "It's real upsetting. People are really spooked. I'm spooked. He's come through an unlocked door or window. The first thing he does is pop the male and rapes and brutalizes the woman. People are pretty paranoid. They don't know what to think."

House after house had front porch or back porch lights shining, as if residences were expecting visitors in the early morning hours. The lights were on to

deter the Night Stalker, who has entered homes with poor, if any, outdoor lighting.

"Normally, you don't see this many lights," Sherwood said.

The Hollywood and West Side chapters of the Guardian Angels began patrolling the San Gabriel Valley on July 11 after receiving phone calls from frightened residents.

"People called us in New York, asking for me or my wife, Lisa," said Curtis Sliwa, who founded the Guardian Angels in 1979. "They were crying. I had to calm them down. They're in mortal fear for their lives."

Kristina Betrus is one such resident fearing for her life.

"I jump at every little sound," said the 26-year-old Altadena resident, who sleeps with a 12-inch butcher knife by her bed. "If I hear a noise I grab the knife."

"I've been staying at my fiancée's house or I have friends sleep over. I'm writing down on my calendar every night where I'm staying. I'm booked up to the 25th. I'm just not going to rest till they find this guy."

Betrus' fears grew a week ago when a man was peering into her house.

"It was about 11:30 at night," she said. "I was lying on the couch watching TV. I felt somebody watching me. I looked to my left. I saw this man looking in the room. He was less than a foot from the window. I saw his dark hair. He had real big eyes and dark skin. Every hair on my body stood up."

The woman rolled onto the floor, turned off the TV and crawled to a telephone to call police. She then went to another window and peered out at the tall man, walking down her driveway.

"He was wandering," Betrus said. "I saw him look around. He didn't run. He was walking very slowly."

Police and a helicopter unit promptly arrived. They didn't find anyone.

The Guardian Angels have been watching out for such suspicious individuals three nights a week, with plans to patrol every night after the San Gabriel chapter completes training that normally takes two months.

"We're staying out till 6 in the morning (on some nights)," said Scott McKeown, the Los Angeles County coordinator of the Guardian Angels. "The whole community is terrorized. Normally you don't have a crisis situation when you're training. We're trying to speed it up."

The volunteers forming the San Gabriel chapter — ranging in ages from 16 to 50 — began physical training and foot and vehicle patrols after 350 residents attended a Guardian Angels meeting in Sierra Madre on July 22.

"People came to us on the streets: 'Hey, how do you join?'" said McKeown. "The West Side and Hollywood chapters couldn't go out there continuously. It was a far drive. We were slacking off on other patrols. Once we saw there was such a good response, we tried to organize a chapter."

And local police departments welcome the additional eyes and ears in the community.

"The more eyes out there the better," said Monrovia police Capt. Gary Gunther.

"We've had no problem with them," said Arcadia acting Police Chief Neal Johnson. "We asked them not to go on private property late at night. People are scared. We'd get more phone calls. How effective they are we don't know."

"We're trying to make our presence felt and hope he (the Night Stalker) thinks there's too many people here, I'm not going to do anything," Sherwood said.

For Betrus, the patrols make her feel a little safer.

"It's great," she said. "But I wish they'd catch the jerk."

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Los Angeles Times

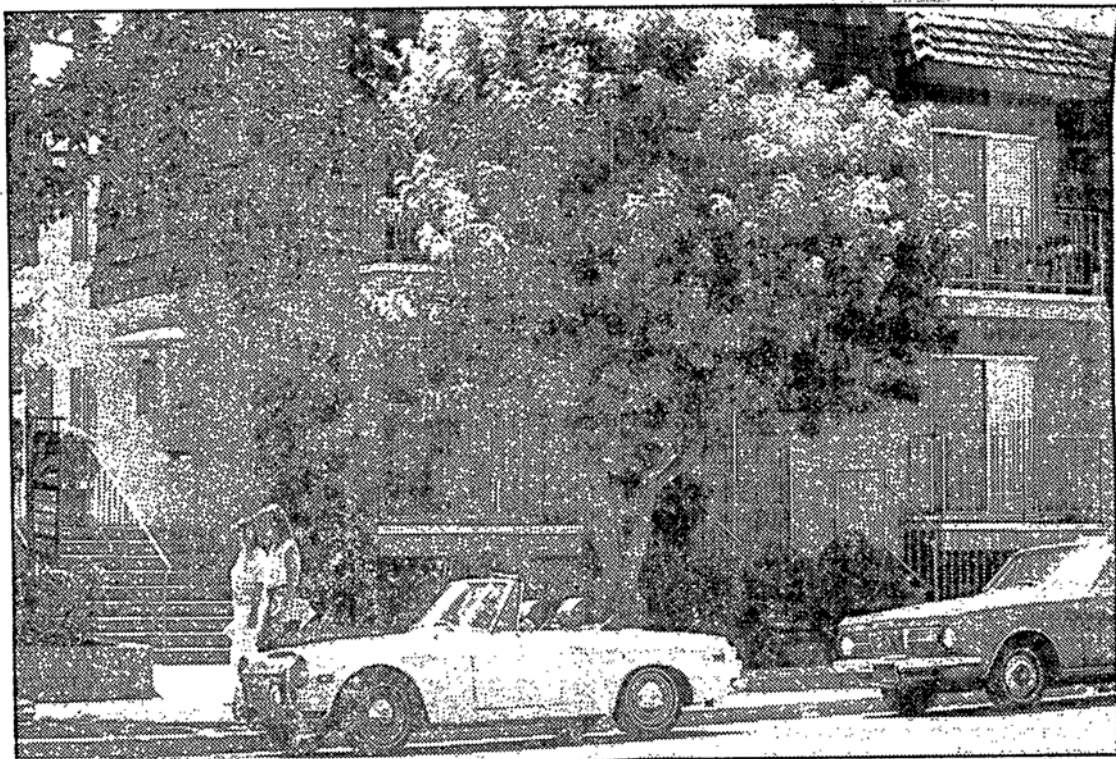
Woman Raped, Slain in Apartment; No 'Intruder' Link Seen

A Santa Monica woman was raped and murdered in her apartment Saturday morning by an intruder who entered through a sliding glass door. But police said the case does not appear to be linked to the so-called Valley Intruder slayings.

"The method of entry was superficially similar," said Santa Monica Police night watch commander Sgt. Bill Brucker. "But subsequent investigation made it evident that this case is not related to the ones in the San Fernando and San Gabriel valleys."

Investigators said the body of the victim, who was in her 50s, was discovered by paramedics who came to an apartment complex in the 1400 block of 14th Street in response to a neighbor's call. The neighbor said she had become concerned when the woman, who lived alone, did not respond to repeated ringing of her doorbell.

Brucker said other details of the case are still under investigation. The victim's identity is being withheld pending notification of her family.



Mike Sargent/Herald photographer

Killer of Jean Wildish entered her apartment on Santa Monica's 14th Street through sliding door on balcony, police say.

Police still studying Night Stalker link to murder in Santa Monica

By John Fleck
Herald staff writer

A detective investigating the brutal rape and murder of a Santa Monica woman Saturday says he is not ruling out the possibility the crime was the work of the Night Stalker.

"At this point I can't make a positive link to it, but I can't discount it either," said Santa Monica Detective Ray Cooper.

The Night Stalker, who enters darkened houses through unlocked doors or windows, has been linked to seven murders and 30 attacks on women in the San Fernando and San Gabriel valleys.

Cooper said Jean Wildish, in her 50s, was raped and then beaten to death early Saturday morning by an intruder who entered her 14th Street apartment through a sliding glass door.

Despite the similarity to the Night Stalker killings, Cooper said, the countywide task force investigating the string of grisly crimes has not yet been called in on the Santa Monica case.

"We investigate our own crimes," he said. But he said he is keeping the task force informed about his investigation.

"At this point I can't make a positive link to (the Night Stalker), but I can't discount it either."

Detective Ray Cooper.

The task force, spearheaded by Los Angeles County homicide detectives with help from local police departments, is part of what authorities have called the largest law enforcement effort in the Los Angeles area since the Hillside Strangler investigation in 1977-78.

Santa Monica police say the Saturday murder has stirred worried phone calls. But they say there is little they can do to reassure the mostly women callers except to suggest safety precautions. "The only thing we can tell them is the standard practice of locking up and the basic security measures that we normally give," said Sgt. Stan Conger.

An elderly woman living across

the street from Wildish said the murder has left her uneasy. "It doesn't help you a bit," she said. "It doesn't make the inside feel much better."

The woman, who asked to remain anonymous, said she and her husband always lock up anyway because of the transients in Santa Monica, but she has been encouraging friends to do the same since Saturday's killing. "I'm just speaking to the girls that live alone, asking them to keep their doors locked, windows locked," she said.

Wildish was killed by an intruder who entered her apartment at 1424 14th St. through a sliding glass door on a balcony. Cooper said Wildish was raped. He added there is evidence of attempted burglary, but would not say whether anything was taken.

Wildish was killed by "blunt force trauma," according to Cooper, who would not say where she was hit or with what. The county coroner's office refused to release any information on the case.

Wildish was home alone when the attack occurred. Her body was discovered Saturday morning after a friend couldn't reach her and phoned police.

Couple shot by intruder

An intruder shot a Northridge woman and her husband in the head after the couple awoke early Tuesday morning to find the man in their bedroom, police said. Charles Peterson, 38, and wife Virginia, 28, were rushed to Northridge Hospital after the 2:30 a.m. shooting. Mrs. Peterson was in critical condition in the intensive care unit, while Mr. Peterson was listed in good condition, said hospital spokeswoman Ann Bethal. Mrs. Peterson woke up and found the 6-foot man brandishing a gun,

said police spokeswoman Sheila Bell. The intruder then shot her at close range in the head, then shot her husband and fled, Bell said.

On guard!

Citizens, criminals find Guardian Angels patrolling streets

By MEG SULLIVAN
Special Correspondent

The hour is approaching midnight as a well-kept lane in residential Arcadia goes to sleep, one window at a time.

A string of street lights illuminates tidy lawns, manicured hedges and an occasional parked car. Except for the whirr of a lone sprinkler and the drone of traffic on nearby Santa Anita Avenue, all is quiet.

Just one anomaly mars this picture of suburban perfection, and even it is somehow fitting. A forgotten light flickers inside one of the parked cars.

Suddenly, all that changes. A band of youths wearing red berets turns the corner. Noting the light, two dash to the nearest house, while the rest stand at rigid attention.

A man with graying hair chooses precisely that moment to walk his dog. Leaving a ranch-style bungalow, he comes face to face with the crowd and stops in his tracks, blinking in disbelief.

The band's leader attempts several times to explain what he and his nine comrades are doing on the quiet street, but the elderly man doesn't appear to

understand.

The residents of the house, meanwhile, fail to answer their door — restrained either by sleep or reports of a killer on the loose.

Such is a typical night out with the Guardian Angels in the San Gabriel Valley — hardly the rip-roaring times graphically chronicled at the organization's inception in 1979.

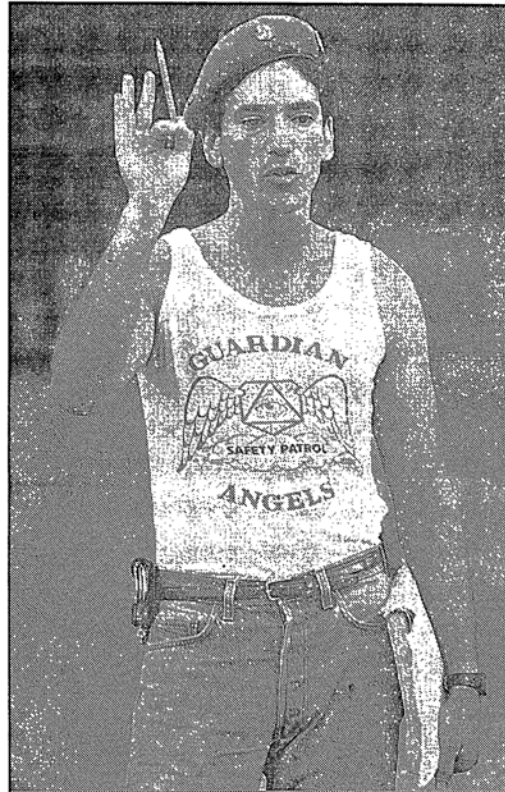
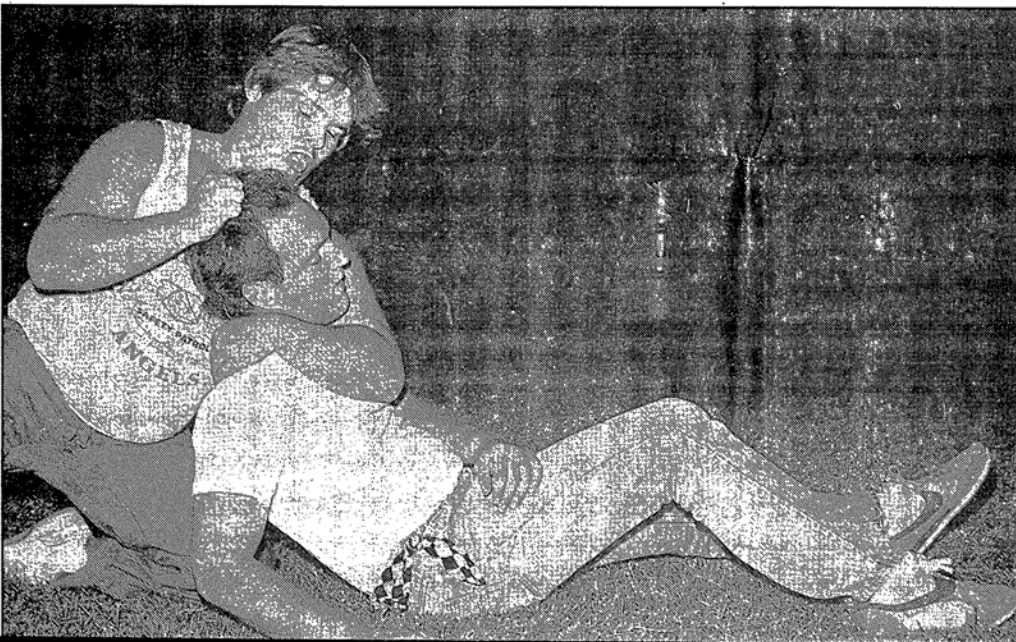
In those days, cold subway stations and vandalized commuter trains served as backdrops for the exploits of the fledgling band first known as the Magnificent 13. Back then the foes were

teen gangs on angel dust. Then the unarmed patrol consisted mostly of former gang members led by the now-legendary Curtis Sliwa. Manager of a McDonalds in the Bronx, he had enough, and he was going to do something about it.

The membership grew from 13 to 48. Then the subways of New York gave way to the streets of Boston, Philadelphia, Cleveland, Miami and, in the fall of 1981, Los Angeles.

Not long afterward, the red

Please see GUARDIAN,
Page A-5



Danny Lewis, above, leader of the Guardian Angels' local chapter, speaks to potential recruits during a recent recruitment rally. At left, Bill Schweitgert demonstrates a lock hold to Stephen Duncan. The Guardian Angels began patrolling streets in the Foothills following

Editorial

Prevention, not fear, can help defeat crime

All of us have been affected, in steps to protect themselves, either personally or indirectly, by the tragic murders that have occurred in various communities in the San Gabriel Valley in recent weeks.

For most, the added horror of the attacks is that they happened here, where we live, exposing our complacency as well as our vulnerability.

The initial response of most of us was fear and a measure of panic.

While time has not yet produced a suspect, it has allowed a measure of calm to return, and a more reasoned reaction to prevail.

The main question is no longer "Why them?" or "Who's next?" but "What can we do to protect ourselves, our families, our homes?"

The answer, as it turns out, is a number of things.

Some of them are obvious, like locking windows and doors.

In addition, free meetings, classes and seminars in personal safety awareness and self-defense have been offered in various communities.

As an example, the city of Temple City is offering a self-defense class for women, and a personal safety awareness luncheon is being scheduled by the Temple City Chamber of Commerce. Similar events are being held in all foothill cities.

For women these are particularly valuable. But men have been killed also, and need to be aware of the danger and to take

steps to protect themselves. Information on how to improve the security of the home, including a free safety check, is available from law enforcement agencies. This is particularly valuable for seniors and those living alone.

Police and sheriff's stations are submitting, and newspapers are publishing, articles of common-sense advice about safety and security. All who read and follow the practical suggestions will benefit now, and in the future.

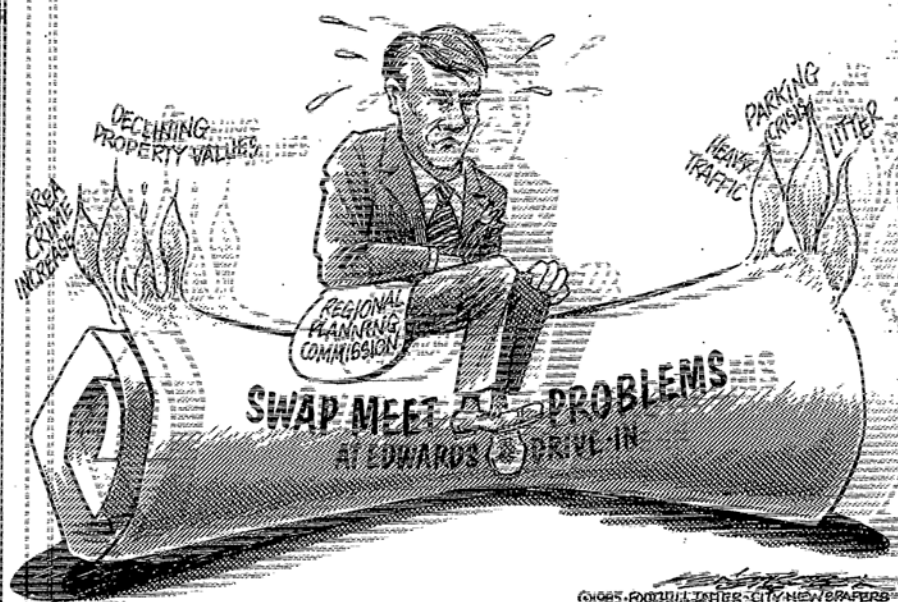
There is a renewed interest and activity in the Neighborhood Watch program, and that is good. And on their own, sometimes for the first time, residents are getting to know the folks next door and across the street, and to keep an eye and ear alert for untoward activity and unlikely individuals.

That also is good. None of these things diminishes the tragedy of the murders, or the apprehension and punishment of the criminal or criminals, but they do help to prevent further attacks.

No longer can we say "It can't happen here." It can. It has. Perhaps the new awareness of that may save a life or lives. If so, some good may come from some very bad.

We must each acknowledge our responsibility for our own safety and security, and take the steps necessary to improve and insure it.

Hot Seat



©1965 FOOTHILL INTER-CITY NEWSPAPERS

Your two cents' worth

Everyone is invited to send opinions on matters of public interest to "Your Two Cents' Worth." Please be brief. Each letter must carry the writer's signature, street address, and city. The Foothill Inter-City Newspapers reserve the right to condense all letters, which are published as space is available. Deadline for submitting letters for publication on Thursday is the preceding Friday noon.

Temple City arrests. In the past couple of weeks a couple of front-page articles have been printed on the arrest of three Temple City park employees.

My first objection is with the Sheriff's department. Once the arrest was made the three men arrested were subject to verbal abuse. It wasn't enough for the ego-inflated heads of the sheriff's to just make the arrest. Then the trio had to spend the entire night in jail.

There was no forced entry and although there were a couple of beer bottles. Obviously, this threesome was a threat to society.

But the real shame of this story is the fact that both the Temple City Times and Pacsetter found it necessary to print the story and on the front page at that. There are real crimes that occur every day, including drunk driving, that at least only makes it to the Police Blotter, hidden somewhere between the front and back pages of the paper.

As a resident of the Live Oak Park area, I have come to know one of the dismissed Recreation leaders, Chaim Swanson, as a responsible and dedicated city employee. The other two young men were subject to the same high standards that Temple City sets for its recreation leaders. These three are deserving of some thanks on a job well done prior to the incidents which led to their dismissal.

Guardian Angels patrol local streets

Continued from Page A-1

berets arrived in Pasadena, where they joined the retinue of Tournament of Roses regulars.

Today, according to local Angels, Sliwa oversees a membership of 5,000 with 58 chapters in North America and another in Guam. In Southern California, the organization has chapters in Santa Ana, Long Beach, Hollywood and Venice and conducts patrols along the border between California and Mexico, according to Dennis Lewis, the 26-year-old director of the Westside Chapter.

Now the Angels hope to stick their finger in the crime dike of Sierra Madre, Monrovia and Arcadia. They say that anonymous calls from citizens in these communities led to their arrival in mid-July. But they say it is the community's largely favorable response that keeps them coming back.

"People have offered us doughnuts and said that we can sleep on their couches if we get tired," says Bill Schweitzer.

Along with Lewis, the 21-year-old director of the Central Los Angeles chapter began last week to train 18 local recruits, who received cheers of encouragement from the houses they passed and the cars that passed them.

This time the backdrop was the neon windmill of a restaurant located across the street from Arcadia County Park. At the park the newcomers heave their way through a strenuous routine of calisthenics, including push-ups, sit-ups and Karate kicks.

Within 15 minutes, they were learning self-defense and tackling techniques. In another hour, they were combing the park in a mock search. Yet later, they had found their way to Arcadia in a practice patrol that organizers characterized as typical for the area.

The recruits ranged in age from 16 to 51 years of age, included both sexes and spanned a gamut of occupations and interests. Though separated by divergent backgrounds and mixed motives, they shared a common belief.

"It just can't be tolerated," said Shelby Pope, in reference to a recent rash of local attacks and murders. A race-horse trainer, she lives near where a Sierra Madre girl recently was assaulted.

"Traditionally Sierra Madre has been a safe place, but things have changed," she said. "If a teen-age girl gets attacked, it's not safe anymore."

A 25-year-old Arcadian who said he had always wanted to be a policeman talked about how his grandmother and sister recently had been assaulted in other southern California cities.

"I've noticed the same element start to move into Arcadia and I don't want that for my wife."



Photo by Tom LaBarera

Dave Cameli, left, of Sierra Madre, Eric Jones of Pasadena sign up to be Guardian Angels as Scott Walker answers questions about the duties of members.

A 51-year-old mother and part-time secretary planned to donate administrative assistance to the chapter. Though a resident of Monrovia, she also claimed to live within blocks of where the Sierra Madre assault had taken place.

"We all have to work together," she said.

Ironically, the Angels' most supportive community has also been their greatest detractor.

"Maybe they are needed on New York subways but not here," said a long-time Sierra Madre resident, who asked not to be identified. She complained that their presence alone "creates an element of fear" on the streets that were once ranked among the safest in this country.

"Sierra Madre doesn't like strangers," confirmed Sierra Madre Police Chief Bill Betts. He said that during a recent week, 25 percent of reports of strangers were eventually traced to Angel activities.

But it wasn't until one pair of Angels mistook a racoon for a prowler, and followed it into the bushes of Sierra Madre's former mayor and city council member Elaine Rudolf, that ire was really aroused. Mrs. Rudolf reported the incident to the police and turned out to complain at a recent city council meeting.

"They don't know the community," she says.

Other Sierra Madre residents complain that they don't know the Angels and underscore the fact that some are former gang members.

"We don't know much about them," said one woman. "They assure us they're screened but it's impossible to thoroughly screen."

No strangers to criticism, the Angels take the complaints in stride, saying that in spite of them all they've received a warmer welcome here than on the west side.

"The idea is not for West Los Angeles to take over and patrol," said Lewis. "It's to inspire locals to take over patrol of their own communities."

While conceding that they do not check the three references required of each trainee, the Angels say that they do telephone the police department for criminal records.

And as for the question of vigilante-ism, they answer before it's asked.

"We're not vigilantes," Lewis warned the recruits. "We don't carry any weapons on patrol."

"Our main objective is to patrol high crime areas and provide a visual deterrent so hopefully when people see us walking around they will be less likely to snatch that purse, commit that rape or steal that car stereo."

The Angels stress that they leave enforcing the law to the

proper authorities, avoid altogether victimless crimes and use force only when their safety or that of a citizen is threatened.

Law enforcement offices remain skeptical about the Angels. None of the authorities contacted could remember a single apprehension by the Angels. Even police officials admit, however, that they are unable to calculate how many crimes their presence may have deterred.

Besides, the Angels say that crime prevention won't be the only focus of the budding chapter. Food and clothing distribution to the needy and court escorts might also be functions of the Angels, they propose. They also talk of patrolling parks on certain days of the week to ensure the safety of the elderly.

Meanwhile, the Angels struggle to put the newest chapter on its feet in time for a scheduled visit next month by Silwa. They actively seek housing for a local headquarters. Next week trainees are scheduled to begin classes in first aid and CPR with the National Red Cross.

"Basically, we stop the problem before it starts," Schweigert said.

Task force probing San Gabriel attacks

By LAURA NICHOLSON
Staff Writer

A multiagency police task force is investigating 30 assaults involving as many as 13 murders in which the police suspect one person to be responsible for the similar attacks primarily in the San Gabriel Valley, authorities said Thursday.

Los Angeles County Sheriff Sherman Block reiterated a warning to residents to keep their doors and windows locked

at a press conference Thursday, following an attack on a couple in Diamond Bar, 30 miles east of Los Angeles.

Early Thursday, deputies found Elyas Abowatch, 35, shot to death and his 28-year-old wife beaten and raped inside their home.

The violent attacks, many occurring in the San Gabriel Valley during the past three months, are suspected to be the work of one person, but authori-

ties have refused to absolutely link the cases.

Investigators from six law enforcement agencies have joined with the county's homicide bureau in an effort to solve the crimes.

The task force includes officers from Arcadia, Monrovia, Monterey Park, Glendale, Sierra Madre and Los Angeles, said Sgt. Frank Salerno of the sheriff's homicide bureau.

Salerno, a principal investiga-

tor on the case, would not say precisely how many officers are participating in the investigation.

In the past officials have suggested that added patrols, stepped-up crime prevention programs and investigative efforts involved more than 100 persons.

"We're looking at a group of cases that involves 25 to 30 incidents," Salerno said.

Specifics of the cases vary, he

said, but they remain similar because the attacker enters through unlocked windows and doors in the early-morning hours, sometimes ransacks the home and assaults or murders the victims.

Some of the victims have been shot. Others, most of them women, have had their throats slashed or have been beaten to death.

Six of the murders bear similarities that seem to connect

them to the same assailant, Salerno said, but would not elaborate on the evidence.

The victims in the assaults have ranged from a 16-year-old Sierra Madre girl who was badly beaten in her home in July to two elderly sisters beaten in their Monrovia home a month earlier.

Two women had their throats

Please see **ATTACKS**,
Page A-5

Attacks: Task force investigating assaults

Continued from Page A-1

slashed in Arcadia in June, and two people were killed in Monterey Park during the past three months. Two women, including the wife of one of the murder victims, were sexually assaulted.

Salerno said the house in Diamond Bar was ransacked and the couple's two children, 3 years old and 3 months old, were unharmed.

That incident followed a similar attack two days ago when a sleeping couple were both shot in the head by a man who entered through an unlocked door of their Northridge home.

Christopher and Virginia Petersen were released from a hospital soon after the assault.

The victims described an as-

sailant similar to a composite released by the Los Angeles Police Department, Salerno said.

That composite is also similar to a sketch drawn by a victim in Monterey Park.

The newest composite was drawn after an attack in Sun Valley on July 20 when Chainarong Khovanath was killed in his home. His wife was sexually assaulted, and the couple's 8-year-old son also was attacked.

The attacker escaped in a maroon or dark brown Grand Prix, authorities said.

The victim described her attacker as a tanned white man with brown curly hair and brown eyes. He is between 6-feet and 6-feet-2 and weighs about 150 pounds. The assailant is between 30 and 35 years old and has stained, gapped teeth.

PHOTO BY STANLEY B-9-81

LOCAL

Police have leads

By BRAD HAUGAARD
Special Correspondent

Police "have definite leads" in a recent rash of murder and assault cases in Arcadia and nearby communities, but there are as yet no suspects, according to acting Arcadia Police Chief Neal Johnson.

Johnson's comment came at the end of an Arcadia town meeting Wednesday night at First Avenue Junior High School. He did not elaborate on what the leads were.

The session, which packed hundreds of people into the auditorium, was designed to inform residents about the crimes and to let them know how to protect their homes from intruders.

At the meeting, a long question-and-answer period was followed by a presentation on the Neighborhood Watch program.

In response to questions from the audience, Johnson said:

— Twenty-five officers from local cities and the Sheriff's Department are attempting to

track down the killer.

The murders were committed between 11 p.m. and 6 a.m.

The only real description of a possible suspect is a composite drawing from the Monterey Park Police Department, and that, he said, is not necessarily who is committing the crimes in the Arcadia area.

Victims in area killings are not always women; men have in some cases also been attacked.

Police have "no idea" how the victims are selected.

Cases in which the attacker used a knife may be related to others in which the attacker used a gun. If they are related, the attacker may have acquired a gun, or may have intentionally changed his pattern.

Johnson and officer Don Alcorn also had safety tips for residents:

— Gather neighbors and contact police to start a Neighborhood Watch program.

— Lock doors and windows. Use a fan at night to circulate air rather than leaving windows open.

— Have a telephone in your bedroom.

— If you want a guard dog, make sure it is "barky." Feed it in the morning, not at night.

Johnson said he likes a central control system that allows him to turn on all the lights in his house except the bedroom. He said he hears a noise.

Leave lights on at night, especially around the outside of the house.

Johnson recommended against semi-automatic weapons because of the possibility of a bullet remaining in the chamber when it appears to be empty.

A person who has a gun should have training in its use, but even so Johnson said, there is the real danger of a person shooting a spouse who has gotten up for a drink of water.

STREET NEWS

OPINION / Editorials

A-4—FRIDAY, AUGUST 9, 1985

KILLER: Latest Victim in Countywide Series

Continued from Page 1

Authorities identified the latest victims as Elyas Abowath, 35, who was fatally shot, and his wife, Sakina, 28, who was beaten. She was treated at a hospital and released. Their two sons, ages 3 years and 3 months, were not harmed.

Block said the couple were attacked about 4 a.m. as they slept in their house on a cul-de-sac in a quiet neighborhood of \$150,000 homes about 30 miles east of downtown Los Angeles. Their assailant apparently entered through an open back or side window.

Poorly Lighted, Unfenced

The house, on Pinehill Lane, was poorly lighted and unfenced, Block said. The couple had lived there for about seven years.

Abowath, who worked in the computer industry, was shot in the head apparently shortly after the killer entered the house. His wife was then assaulted. The slayer "did some ransacking" of the house before leaving, Block said.

Frightened neighbors huddled Thursday morning on the sidewalk in front of the house, watching coroner's assistants remove Abowath's body and wondering aloud why their neighborhood had been victimized.

"I thought we had got away from

all this," said one distraught woman, who had moved to the neighborhood only a month ago from the San Gabriel Valley, where at least four killings are believed to have been committed by the same man.

"I keep thinking that if I hadn't closed the window, it could have been us," the woman said. "I guess it would be silly to move again. There doesn't seem to be any way to move away from it."

Block said that the first of the related homicides may have occurred in the San Gabriel Valley. Since then, calls from citizens to the Sheriff's Department have increased by "200% to 300%," Block said. Heightened awareness among residents, as well as additional patrols, may explain why later killings occurred elsewhere, he speculated.

Northridge Attack

One non-fatal attack believed to be related to the slayings took place Tuesday in Northridge, where an intruder awakened a 38-year-old man and his wife and shot both of them in the head at close range with a small-caliber pistol before escaping as the wounded man gave chase.

The couple, Christopher and Virginia Petersen, gave investigators a description of their assailant that was similar to those offered by other survivors and witnesses. The

attacker, they said, was 25 to 30 years old, 6 feet tall and 160 pounds with curly brown hair.

Authorities said the killer's front teeth are badly stained and have a wide gap. The Northridge incident was not linked initially to Thursday's assault in Diamond Bar. But when pressed by reporters, Block admitted a connection.

"It appears that the person responsible for these acts . . . may be the person involved in similar incidents," Block said. "In all of the half-dozen of these cases, we have seen similarities that lead us to believe the same person or persons is responsible."

Specifics Withheld

Despite the similarities, police are puzzled by some characteristics.

"Victims run the gamut in age, from 16 to upper 60s—women living alone, women living together, couples," Block said. "There does not seem to be a uniformity of any kind in the type of victim."

Block would not specify which slayings and non-fatal assaults had been linked to one man. To do so, he said "would give people a false sense of security where there have been no attacks and would create hysteria in areas where there have been murders."

However, investigators theorize that victims may have included:

- William Doi, 65, of Monterey Park, shot to death and his wife assaulted on May 14.

- Mabel Bell, 84, of Monrovia, severely beaten June 2 and who later died. Her sister, Florence Lang, 81, also was badly beaten but survived.

- Patty Elaine Higgins, 32, found dead June 28 in her Arcadia home. Her throat had been slashed.

- Mary Cannon, 75, another Arcadia resident, found dead June 2 in her home with her throat slashed.

- Chainarong Khovanath, 32, shot to death in his Sun Valley home while sleeping. His wife was assaulted and their 8-year-old son beaten. A man was seen driving away in a maroon-colored Pontiac Grand Prix with a damaged right fender.

Block said that based on information investigators now have, chances are slim of solving the killings soon.

Homeowner With Gun

"Unless our investigation strikes a vein of gold, I would suspect that this guy may wind up getting caught by a homeowner with a gun," the sheriff said.

Detectives assigned to the task force from various police departments are not working out of a central office, but are exchanging information and tips on a regular basis, according to officials.

47-9-85 LA TIMES

Diamond Bar

Slaying May Be Latest in Series

By DAVID FREED
and CAROL McGRAW,
Times Staff Writers

A Diamond Bar man was shot to death and his wife assaulted in their bedroom early Thursday, apparently the latest victims in a countywide series of slayings that have sparked one of the largest law enforcement mobilizations since the infamous Hillside Strangler case in the late 1970s.

Los Angeles County Sheriff Sherman Block said investigators from six area police agencies believe they have linked at least six or seven killings since May to the same person—a curly haired man with discolored teeth who sneaks through unlocked windows and doors before dawn to attack his victims as they sleep.

Block said the slayings are among about 25 random assaults, including 12 or 13 killings, that may have been committed this year by the one man.

'A Killer Out There'

"There's definitely a killer out there," Block said at a press conference in his office. "Six or seven cases appear to be pretty clearly the work of the same individual. . . . Whether we're talking about a serial killer beyond the half-dozen or so, we don't know."

The series of slayings, in which victims have been shot, stabbed and bludgeoned, is being investigated by a task force of about 25 detectives, according to acting Arcadia Police Chief Neal Johnson. Arcadia is participating in the effort, along with the Sheriff's Department and the Los Angeles, Glendale, Monrovia and Monterey Park police departments, Block said.

Similar killings have occurred in each city in recent months. In some cases, houses have been burglarized; in others, women have been raped. The attacks apparently have been random.

Each department, Block said, has beefed up its street patrols because of the killings.

Please see KILLER, Page 34

Another rape — San Gabriel woman, 84

Attack similar to others

By BRANDON BAILEY
Staff Writer

An 84-year-old woman, who was raped in her San Gabriel area home Sunday morning, is the latest victim in a wave of assaults and murders that has baffled authorities and terrorized residents in the San Gabriel and San Fernando valleys.

The woman suffered bruises and was treated at a local hospital and released, a Los Angeles County Sheriff's spokesman said.

The attacker, a man wearing a dark mask, climbed through an unlocked window at the rear of the house about 5:30 a.m., said Deputy Joe Garza of the Sheriff's Information Bureau.

The woman lived alone in the 5500 block of Angelus Avenue, a quiet residential street in an unincorporated area less than a mile from the Temple City Sheriff's Station.

Sheriff's homicide detectives were called to the scene because authorities thought the attacker could be the same man who is believed responsible for at least six murders and as many as 25 slayings, beatings, rapes and kidnappings.

If Sunday's incident is related to the others, it would mark a return to the West San Gabriel Valley area after recent assaults in the San Fernando Valley and the East San Gabriel Valley.

While early incidents in the crime wave were reported this spring and summer in the nearby cities of Rosemead, Monrovia and Arcadia, the last previous assault was Thursday's fatal shooting of a man and attack on his wife in Diamond Bar, east of those cities, near the San Bernardino County line.

"It's really not a select pattern or a select area," said Garza, adding that the incidents appear to be spread at random over a large part of northern

Please see RAPE,
Page A-6

Rape: Attack in San Gabriel similar

Continued from Page A-1

Los Angeles County.

Referring to Sunday's incident, Garza said, "There are certain similarities leading the investigators to believe this may have been perpetrated by the same suspect."

Another spokesman, Deputy Sam Jones, gave a more qualified statement after detectives went home Sunday evening. "They still haven't linked it, but they are investigating" the possibility of a link to the other recent crimes, Jones said.

Although none of the earlier cases involved an attacker wearing a mask, authorities suggested the man may have tried to hide his face because police have been circulating two composite drawings made with the help of the victims.

Many of the cases have involved a lone male intruder who has entered homes through an unlocked door or window, in the late-night or early-morning hours, Garza said.

Garza said other details of Sunday's rape also appear similar to previous assaults, but he declined to elaborate.

Sheriff's Sgt. Frank Salerno,

one of the principal investigators assigned to the recent wave of attacks, confirmed Sunday afternoon that homicide detectives are looking for a tie between Sunday's incident and the others. He also declined to discuss details of the case.

After assaulting the woman in San Gabriel, the man fled the house on foot. Garza said no car was seen. The woman was able to walk out of her house and get help from a neighbor, who called the sheriff's department.

None of the woman's neighbors reported seeing her attacker, although at least two said their dogs had been alerted by something strange early that morning.

"My dog was doing a lot of barking and growling," said the woman's next-door neighbor, Alex Figueroa. He said he noticed the unusual commotion as he was preparing to leave for church, about 6 a.m.

"I was getting ready to go see what was happening," Figueroa said, when he saw his neighbor come out of her house.

The woman had bruises on her arms and had wrapped a blanket around herself, said Figueroa, who summoned sher-

iff's deputies.

Victims in some of the other cases have been beaten, stabbed and shot. Garza said the woman on Sunday "was not severely beaten, but there was evidence that she was manhandled."

Garza said the woman's neatly painted, one-story house didn't have good lighting in the back yard — a protective measure that police have stressed, along with locked windows and doors, since the attacks began.

Across the street, a group of neighbors gathered Sunday afternoon to talk about the incident. Most were well-aware of the recent series of crimes, and more than one said Sunday's incident was "too close" to home.

Leaning on his fence, Robert Ramirez, a neighbor, said he heard his dog barking in an unusual manner about 5 a.m. Sunday. But he said he didn't go outside to check on the noise. "I told myself (that) maybe I was just getting paranoid."

Ramirez said he told police about a strange man he saw sitting in a strange car, a few houses away, on Friday evening. The man appeared to be looking over the neighborhood, Ramirez

said.

Salerno said such reports weren't unusual, but he wouldn't say if detectives believe the man was "casing" the neighborhood in preparation for Sunday's attack. Nor would the detective say if police believe the suspect in the recent attacks has made a habit of studying an area before selecting a victim.

"That's something that we've been trying to assess," Salerno said. "In some cases it appears that maybe he has. And in some cases it appears (the attacks occurred at) random."

Sheriff Sherman Block has said detectives believe one man is responsible for at least six murders in the recent string of 25 or more killings and assaults.

At least 25 officers from several police agencies are part of a task force investigating the assaults. These include the murder of an elderly Rosemead woman and the wounding of her roommate, the fatal beating of a Monrovia woman, the deaths of two Arcadia women whose throats were slashed, the shooting death of a Sun Valley man and the fatal shooting Thursday in Diamond Bar.

A-6 STAR NEWS, TUESDAY, AUGUST 13, 1968



SHERMAN BLOCK

... L.A. County Sheriff

Police discounting link between rape, murders

From Staff and Wire Reports

A rapist who assaulted an elderly woman was probably not the man sought by a multi-agency task force in the slayings of at least six people, Los Angeles County Sheriff Sherman Block said Monday.

The 84-year-old grandmother, a widow for 10 years, was awakened at dawn Sunday by a masked man who entered her San Gabriel home and raped her, investigators said. She later was released from a hospital in good condition.

Sheriff's deputies initially said they believed the attacker could have been the man being sought by the task force.

"There are strong indications this could be the same person," Deputy Sam Jones said after Sunday's attack, which was within blocks of the Temple City sheriff's substation. "There are similarities."

But Block downplayed this possibility

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Please see **LINK**,
Page A-7

Link: Sunday rape, other assaults not alike

Continued from Page A-1

Monday.

Six murders, including two in Arcadia, one in Monrovia and one in Rosemead, are among the cases investigators have definitely linked as the work of the same person, sheriff's deputies confirmed Monday.

The elderly woman's description of her assailant, as well as methods the attacker used, "lead us to believe that it may not, and probably is not, related" to the six or more murders and other assaults linked to one man, the sheriff said.

The woman's attacker was probably too short to be the killer that has terrorized neighborhoods in the San Fernando and San Gabriel valleys, he said.

In the case of the woman who was raped Sunday, neighbor Robert Ramirez said he saw a suspicious-looking man slouched in a car taking note of two houses next to the woman's home last Friday afternoon, leading to fears the woman could have been stalked for two days.

"He wasn't there for five minutes," said Ramirez, 52. "All I could see was part of his head. He knew I was looking at him. I knew he was looking at me out the corner of his eye. As I went out to get his license plate number, the man left."

After seeing the man in the neighborhood, and learning of the series of attacks

and murders, Ramirez was apprehensive.

"I had a gut feeling something was going to happen," he said. "Something just wasn't right in the neighborhood. I went to bed at 10:30 (Saturday night). I got up three times to check the neighbors and the streets."

In addition, the investigation of some 30 attacks that could be connected includes the abductions of three children in Monterey Park, Montebello and Eagle Rock.

Earlier, detectives had linked the abduction of those children to a similar case in Arcadia.

On Monday, Lt. Dick Walls of the Sheriff's Information Bureau confirmed that the death of 35-year-old Dayle Okazaki in her Rosemead home on March 17 was the first case investigators linked to the assailant.

The shooting death of Okazaki was connected with the beating death of Mable Bell, 84. She and her sister were found beaten in their Monrovia home on June 1. Bell died later in a hospital. Those attacks were followed with the June 28 murder of Patty Elaine Higgins, 32, who was beaten and had her throat slashed. Another murder occurred four days later. Mary Cannon, 75, also of Arcadia, died of a cut throat.

Definitely linked with those slayings are the shooting death of Chainarong Khovanath, 32, at his home in Sun Valley and another shooting last Thursday in Diamond Bar in which Elyas Abowath, 35, was killed,

Walls said.

Investigators also are looking at similarities between these cases and assaults and murders in the Altadena, Monterey Park, Sierra Madre and Glendale areas. "He's been consistently inconsistent," said Sgt. Frank Salerno, investigator for the sheriff's homicide bureau.

"Everybody's working leads and everybody is keeping everybody informed," said Acting Police Chief Neal Johnson of Arcadia.

Arcadia is one of seven agencies that have formed a task force to catch the killer who has been variously dubbed the "Valley Invader," "L.A. Nightstalker," "Midnight Rambler" and the "Walk-in Killer," because he enters through open doors and windows at late-night hours.

The task force is made up of investigators from Arcadia, Monrovia, Monterey Park, Sierra Madre, Glendale, the Los Angeles Police Department and the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department.

The FBI has offered to help in the investigation, but spokesman Fred Reagan would not confirm that the agency was preparing a psychological profile of the killer.

Descriptions of the assailant vary but a composite drawing estimates that the man is 6 feet tall, weighs 150 to 160 pounds and has wavy brown hair and gapped stained teeth.

Tuesday
August 13, 1985

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EXAMINER



Q&A

How you can avoid becoming a victim

John Carroll, who helped make the video "Principles of Home Defense," offers crime-fighting advice for everyone. His advice is timely, because the Night Stalker is still at large/A-7.



JOE MORGENSTERN

Name-droppers and Night Stalkers

Yet another grisly nickname has entered the civic vocabulary. The Night Stalker is in our midst.

He started out in the middle of last week as a "bedroom intruder." That was after the shooting of a couple in Northridge.

The next day, following an attack in Diamond Bar, he was a "home invader," and after that a "night-prowling killer."

By Friday the police had speculated that one man might be responsible for as many as 30 such incidents currently under investigation. At that point the man, assuming there really is only one man behind all this horror, took on a new and more ominous identity. The Herald dubbed him the Night Stalker in its front-page headline, and over a map showing the locations of 11 assaults and murders in the San Fernando Valley and the San Gabriel Valley, we ran the headline "L.A. NIGHT STALKER'S DEADLY TRAIL."

That made it official.

Other people and agencies have tried other names since then. Channel 4 calls him the Walk-In Murderer, which doesn't have much of a lilt. For a time some cops were calling him the 818 Murderer, due to the fact — give thanks for extremely small favors — that he hasn't killed anyone in the 213 area.

City News Service's Norman Jacoby, the dean of Los Angeles police reporters and a man who has named several of these monsters in the past, dubbed this one the Valley Invader. That's not bad, but it makes him sound like some new and unpromising USFL team. Here at the Herald, reporters and editors also toyed with the Welcome Mat Murderer, the Back Door Man and still another high-concept monicker, the Midnight Rambler.

None of them could top the name that had topped Friday's story, however.

Yesterday our story went with The Night Stalker. So did one distributed by United Press International. The Associated Press used Night Stalker in its identifying slug, and Paul Harvey, following the Herald's lead, did a Night Stalker piece in yesterday's broadcast.

What's to be said in favor of Night Stalker is its inherent melodrama—i.e., its potential for selling papers—and its show-business lineage. ("The Night Stalker" was a TV series in which a reporter played by Darin McGavin stalked killers who killed at night, including a vampire and a monster attracted to Las Vegas showgirls.) What's to be said against it is the same thing that's to be said against all such melodramatic and often riveting nicknames for mass murderers: their potential for creating, sustaining and then intensifying a climate of fear.

It happens every time the press gets hold of a prolonged murder case.

Remember Jack the Ripper?

Meritully no; we're all too young for that, though some of us can remember Laird Cregar playing the essence of the part in "The Lodger," and others of us thought that Jack the Rippling was high art. When Stephen Sondheim put it to laughs and keening music in "Sweeney Todd,"

But who can forget, thanks to vivid phrasemaking, the Black Dahlia case, the Red Light Bandit, Son of Sam, the Night Rise Rapist, the Cat Rapist, the Zodiac Killers, the Freeway Killer, the Trailside Slayer, the Sunset Strip Killer, the Trash Bag Murderers, the Alphabet Bomber, the Hillside Strangler, the Skid Row Slasher and the Skid Row Stabber?

I talked to Norman Jacoby yesterday about these names and the effect they're apt to have on our psyches. He has a vested interest in some of them, of course. Just as the Herald named the Night Stalker, Norman, who recently celebrated his 50th anniversary in journalism, named, among many others, the Skid Row Slasher and the Hillside Strangler.

"I think 'Hillside Strangler' was as good a name as any," he said with perfect aplomb. "Even though it turned out to be stranglers instead of 'strangler.' I think it was all was after the fourth murder that I came up with that one, because everything at that point with one exception seemed to have happened on hillsides. And by the way, on that one exception is the crime they never did hook on them."

So much for pride of workmanship. But doesn't bestowing such sensationalist names on such unspeakable lowlife give them an importance they don't deserve?

"Maybe so; but you still have to call them something. You need something that will stand out in a headline, or on TV, so the public will know what you're talking about."

That was the answer, I realized. You have to have to call them something. You cannot, day after day and week after week, write headlines or news stories about the Unidentified Person Who, During the Hours of Darkness, Gains Access To Homes Through Unlocked Windows Or Doors.

Calling the person the Night Stalker may be sensationalizing the case, and scaring readers all over town. But the person does stalk at night, and you have to call him something. Calling him the Night Stalker may, at the very least, scare citizens into locking their windows and doors.

Callers bombard police with tips and questions on the Night Stalker

Some ways to make yourself safe from would-be intruders

But authorities say they're no closer to finding killer

Whether this recent spate of killings, rapes and assaults in the San Fernando and San Gabriel valleys is the work of one individual or a number of individuals, one fact remains alarmingly clear: Gone are the days when we can keep our doors and windows unlocked and still feel safe. But what are we supposed to do? Barricade ourselves in? Arm ourselves? Well, according to John Carroll, vice president of Wild Wing Productions, the maker of the video "Principles of Home Defense," we'd better do something, or else possibly suffer the consequences. Carroll, a reserve deputy sheriff for the last 2½ years, was interviewed by Herald staff writer Milton McGriff.

Q&A

Q: Some people think that a home is less safe with a handgun around, especially if there are children around.

A: That's an individual choice. Some people like to have a handgun around the home, a lot of people don't — either way is fine. It is an individual choice.

Q: Having a handgun around implies an awesome responsibility of properly caring for a weapon.

A: Well, if you are not going to get the proper training for a gun, and properly look after it, and practice, then I suggest that you don't get one. If you are going to make the decision that you are going to keep a gun in your house, and that is a big decision, then you'd better get the proper training, know how to handle it. Because if you don't, the chances are that the guy could take it off you.

Q: How many homes do have handguns now?

A: The last statistic I had was that there are over 60 million handguns in the United States. I would imagine a good guess is that 80 percent of those are for home protection.

Q: What suggestions do you have for home defense for the person who refuses to have a loaded gun in their home?

A: That's fine. But still have a home defense plan that if somebody does break into your home, they'll encounter a deadbolt on your bedroom door. That's the last line of defense. You can lock the door and they can't come in and hurt you. If they come in and steal something out of your house, that's fine. Let them take it. Police will get them later. But at least you are not going to get into a confrontation. If you can avoid a confrontation, do so. If they decide they want to attack you, then you should have some sort of defense or else you are going to be a victim.

Q: That's where we come in with a very strong statement in our video which says that it is your choice to



"We come in with a very strong statement in our video which says that it is your choice to be a victim. If someone comes at you, it is your decision if you are going to take it lying down or if you are going to fight back."

John Carroll

it only happens to someone else, when it happens to you, it is too late. You should take precautions. Anybody who leaves their doors and windows unlocked at night is asking for trouble.

Q: What does a reserve deputy sheriff do?

A: Basically, we work in different fields. Some work on patrol. At times, we are assigned to the photo reserve company. We are assigned, mainly because of our expertise in the movie industry, to make officer survival training films. We take an incident where maybe a deputy sheriff was killed

By Mark S. Warnick
Herald staff writer

Law enforcement officers continuing their search for a brutal serial killer again were bombarded with telephone calls from helpful, frightened residents yesterday, but authorities said they were no closer to finding the man who has terrorized parts of Los Angeles County.

"The tips haven't led to anything, as of yet," said Sheriff's Capt. William R. Hinkle.

Six agencies, including the sheriff's department, are searching for the so-called Night Stalker, who enters darkened homes through unlocked doors or windows. The man has been linked to at least 14 recent attacks, including seven murders.

He could be responsible for as many as 30 attacks since February, most recently the rape and beating of an 84-year-old woman in San Gabriel early Sunday, according to police.

The sheriff's department's Temple City station, in whose jurisdiction Sunday's attack occurred, was among the offices flooded with calls.

"It's been quite hectic," Lt. Volker Niewisch said. "The concern is very real."

Many callers have told authorities that they believe they have spotted the suspect. Others have asked for advice on how to secure

their homes and how to comfort frightened relatives, Niewisch said.

"We had one woman who was unable to calm down her daughter, who is 19 and lives at home," Niewisch said. "All we can do is tell people the basics. Keep your doors and windows locked, even if it's warm and uncomfortable and you need to use a fan or air conditioning."

In Monterey Park, where police are investigating several attacks that may be linked to the Night Stalker, officers yesterday reported heightened awareness throughout the community. Some residents are staying overnight at friends' homes and some children are sleeping in their parents' bedroom, said David Riser, a reserve officer with the Monterey Park Police Department.

In the approximately 30 cases being investigated, no pattern has as yet emerged regarding weapons, victims or days of attack. The only common denominators are that the suspect entered each house through an unlocked door or window and that all of the residences had poor, if any, outside lighting.

A composite drawing of the suspect, based on descriptions provided by surviving victims, has been distributed throughout Southern California. The killer was described as white, possibly Hispanic, age 25 to 30, about 6 feet tall, with dark, curly hair and gapped, very discolored teeth.



Police are seeking suspect who resembles this sketch in Night Stalker cases.

"All we can do is tell people the basics. Keep your doors and windows locked, even if it's warm and uncomfortable and you need to use a fan or air conditioning."

Lt. Volker Niewisch

lymph node cancer. A woman named Karen Konroe, he took many photographs and made a book of them.

...of lymph node cancer

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Latest Attack Is Not Believed Tied to 'Valley Intruder'

By DAVID FREED, *Times Staff Writer*

The rape of an 84-year-old San Gabriel woman early Sunday may not have been the work of a late-night intruder being sought by a police task force in a county-wide series of slayings and assaults, authorities believe.

Despite initial speculation that the intruder had struck again, there were few similarities between Sunday's incident and earlier attacks in which people have been shot, stabbed, raped and bludgeoned in their homes, Los Angeles County Sheriff Sherman Block said Monday.

The elderly woman's description of her assailant, as well as methods the attacker used, "lead us to believe that it may not, and probably is not, related" to the six or more murders and as many as 13 other non-fatal assaults linked to one person, the sheriff said.

Many of the incidents—dating back to February—have taken place in the San Gabriel and San Fernando valleys, leading Block to suggest Monday that the man they

Please see RAPE, Page 3

WHITTIER

RIVERSIDE

State Looks Into Alleged Ritualistic Murder Cases

By ERIC MALNIC, Times Staff Writer

The state attorney's general's office, responding to a grand jury request, has agreed to review how the Kern County Sheriff's Department and other local agencies have handled child molestation cases that purportedly included the cannibalistic murders of infants.

In a letter asking for a state investigation, Carleen Radanovich, foreman of the Kern County Grand Jury, cited "the obvious mishandling of the children involved" and raised questions about "the methodology employed by law enforcement personnel," according to Chief Deputy Atty. Gen. Nelson Kempsey.

Kempsey said that Radanovich expressed concern about Bakersfield children who were taken from their parents and placed in protective custody in foster homes and child welfare institutions. In some cases, the parents haven't been charged.

He said she also expressed concern about children who first denied they had been molested, then changed their stories under repeated questioning and implicated "their parents, social workers and others."

Satanic Rings

Kern County Sheriff Larry Kleier is investigating charges that satanic rings of adults have engaged in ritualistic murders that included sexual abuse, cremations, cannibalism and the drinking of human blood. The children say that as many as 77 adults were involved in the rings, with as many as 27 infants slain, according to Kleier.

But doubts have been raised by defense attorneys and others who cite an admitted shortage of corroborating evidence and obvious errors in the children's stories.

Kleier has said repeatedly that

he believes the stories of the satanic rites because nine children, independently, "began telling me the same thing."

Stanley Simrin, an attorney representing some of the accused, said he doesn't believe the stories because some of the children have said that infants who are known to be alive were killed and because "there's absolutely no evidence" to support the allegations.

Molestation Counts

Although molestation charges have been filed against at least 17 people—five of them convicted—no one has been arrested or charged in connection with the purported murders.

Kempsey said that Radanovich asked specifically that three agencies be investigated in connection with the cases—the Sheriff's Department, the county Welfare Department and the county district attorney's office.

Kempsey said that because county prosecutors were not accused of specific misdeeds in the letter, they will join state prosecutors in reviewing the molestation cases.

Kempsey said that representatives of his office will meet with personnel from the district attorney's office and Sheriff's Department today to determine how the review will proceed.

Kleier, Welfare Director O. C. Sills and Dist. Atty. Edward R. Jagels have all said they will cooperate fully with the attorney general's office in the probe.

"But I think it's a waste of time," Kleier said. He and Sills both said they thought their agencies had "handled these cases extremely well." Jagels was not immediately available for comment.

RAPE: Attack Not Believed Linked to 'Valley Intruder'

Continued from Page 1

are seeking be dubbed the "Valley Intruder." Others in the media searching for an appropriate moniker have labeled the wanted man the "Valley Invader," "Walk-in Killer" and "Night Stalker."

Whatever his label, the assailant gains entry through open windows and unlocked doors to attack sleeping victims. Nearly all of the residences where attacks have occurred were poorly lighted and unfenced.

Investigators from the Sheriff's Department and the Los Angeles, Arcadia, Glendale, Monrovia and Monterey Park police departments are participating in a manhunt that Block described as "far more complex" than that mounted in the Hillside Strangler murders of the late 1970s. Block said the six-agency task force is "growing every day" and probably now numbers more than 50 detectives.

The case thus far has baffled investigators, who invariably depend on a killer's *modus operandi*—a consistent pattern of behavior—to discover clues and make arrests. The pattern often involves a killer's preference for a particular type of weapon or victim.

"That's why this case is so mind-boggling," Block said. "There's no consistency at all."

Even in those cases where vic-

tims have been shot, a different gun apparently has been used, the sheriff noted.

The essential links between each episode have been the assailant's method of entry and the physical description offered by survivors and witnesses. The intruder has been described and depicted in a composite drawing as a thin man between 6 feet and 6 feet 2 inches tall and between 25 and 30 years of age. He has discolored front teeth that are widely gapped and curly brown hair.

In Sunday's incident, the elderly woman was attacked at about 5:30 a.m. in her one-story house. She did not get a good look at her assailant because he was wearing a mask, Block said. However, she described the man as considerably shorter than the individual wanted in the other crimes, he said.

The woman's description of his height—and the fact that the attacker did not exhibit a weapon, wore a mask and did not beat her—led investigators to discount the possibility that the crime was committed by the same person being sought by the task force, Block said.

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Ganging up against Night Stalker

Frightened citizens gather; supervisors offer \$10,000 reward

By Timothy Carlson
and Chris Woodyard
Herald staff writers

The brutal killing of a 30-year-old Monterey Park woman may be linked to the elusive Night Stalker, who is connected to at least 14 recent attacks including seven murders, Los Angeles County sheriff's investigators said yesterday.

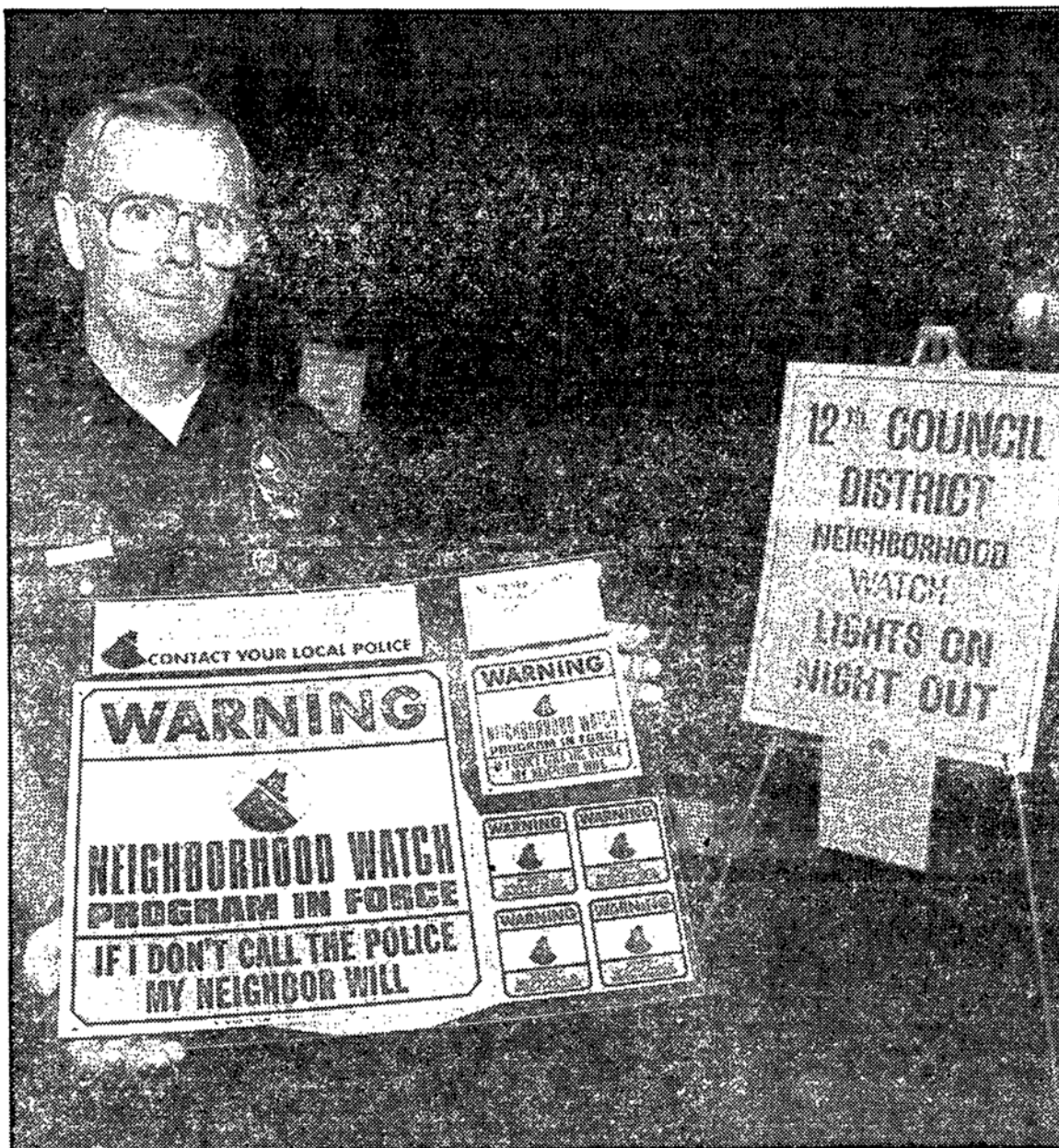
Meanwhile, reacting to the terror that has gripped county residents, the Board of Supervisors yesterday offered a \$10,000 reward for the stalker.

Sheriff's Capt. William R. Hinkle said the March 17 shooting of Tsal-lian Yu, 30, of Monterey Park is among the cases under investigation by a task force of detectives.

He said Yu was pulled from her car in the 500 block of Alhambra Avenue at 11:45 p.m., about an hour after Dayle Okazaki, the Night Stalker's first confirmed murder victim, was shot to death in her condominium.

Okazaki's home is about two miles from where Yu was shot repeatedly by the man who yanked her from her car at a stop sign. The man fled in a car.

In Los Angeles yesterday, Supervisor Pete Schabarum said, "It is important that (members of) this board do all we can to help in bringing the person or persons responsible for these senseless



Capt. Walt Mitchell displays Neighborhood Watch signs available from LAPD offices as part of crime-prevention program. **Fear/A-9, Col. 4**

Javier Mendez/Herald photographer

Frightened residents up in arms as fear of Night Stalker spreads

Fear/Continued from A-1

crimes to justice."

Supervisor Kenneth Hahn, who joined in unanimous support for the reward, said that people now "live in terror."

This heightened awareness of crime and fear among citizens was evident last night during two neighborhood meetings.

In Diamond Bar last night, site of the Night Stalker's last murder, frightened residents met for the first time since the slaying last Thursday. And in the San Fernando Valley, residents joined in a national campaign to urge people to become involved in neighborhood watch programs.

The search for the Night Stalker has become the most intense joint police investigation since the Hillside Strangler case in the late 1970s. The sheriff's department is coordinating the investigation with five other police agencies in the suburban communities where the killer is believed to have struck.

More than 50 detectives from the six agencies are working on the case, said Hinkle.

Authorities again received a substantial number of tips from telephone callers yesterday, but reported no new leads in the investigation.

The suspect is thought to be an Anglo or Hispanic, 25 to 30 years old and about 6 feet tall, based on victims' descriptions.

His most recent attack may have come Sunday when an 84-year-old woman was raped in her San Gabriel home, though sheriff's investigators have indicated some doubt as to whether it was the Night Stalker.

During the Diamond Bar meeting, many of the 50 people who gathered at the public library said they are terrified because they are close friends and neighbors of Elyas Abowath, 35, who was the last person killed in this series of vicious crimes.

"These killings can't go on," said attorney Paul Horcher, one of the six members of the Diamond Bar municipal advisory council who called the meeting last night.

Sheriff's Capt. Don Webster of the Industry station told the residents he is intensely concerned about these crimes.

"I drove by that house this afternoon," he said. "There I sat and pondered the same question. Why this house? Of all the houses here, what drew this person to this residence? It was a random selection, but the common thread with all the killings was the presence of an open window or an open door."

"If something seems strange to you, call us," he pleaded. "I'd rather come out five or six times and meet a Fuller brush salesman or a TV repairman than miss a chance to catch this guy."

Webster told the people there to practice dialing 911 in the dark.

Don and Emelie Ledesma, neighbors of the Abowath family, said they have established a trust fund at a local Security Pacific Bank branch for the surviving wife and two children.

Don Ledesma's voice was laced with emotion when he recalled the reaction of Abowath's 3-year-old son, Aamer.

"The little boy went to Bob Wilson's house and asked for help that morning," said Ledesma. "In his 3-year-old understanding he said his parents weren't feeling well. We sat with the boy at his father's funeral. In his understanding, he thinks his father is sleeping."

Emelie said the neighborhood is stunned. "The shock of what happened — we still can't get over it," she said. "We can't sleep. We haven't been in our bedroom since that night. Now we have slumber parties in our neighborhood because we are all afraid."

Don added, "I want people to catch the guy, let's get back to living."

Emelie said, "My son, he's 17, and 6-foot-3 and 195 pounds, he won't go out. He sits in a chair with a baseball bat in his hands."

Bob Wilson, the neighbor who discovered the body after the little boy came to his house, said he and his neighbors have a gnawing fear. "What freedoms are there?" he asked. "You feel you have to be home before dark — and you don't sleep until it's light again. I've been exhausted at work. I come home at noon to check on the house."

About 50 miles west in Granada Hills, residents saw an artist's sketch of the stalker during a meeting for "Lights On, Night Out."

Chuck Schwennesen, 69, said residents of this middle-class community refused to be intimidated by the Night Stalker. "Our neighbors are concerned, yes, but we're not frightened to the point we'll give in," he said.

Schwennesen said he and many of his neighbors have guns.

Los Angeles police Capt. Wait Mitchell of the Devonshire division, said his officers have distributed thousands of fliers with an artist's sketch of the stalker and his description.

"The way we're attempting to deal with that is to make sure people know we're looking for this guy and make sure he knows we're looking for him," he said.

The Night Stalker is being blamed for one crime in the Devonshire area, Mitchell said. "But one's too many," he said.

Residents also took the opportunity to plug Neighborhood Watch. Chuck Mason, co-chairman of the Granada Hills Neighborhood Watch, claimed the program was largely responsible for a 32 percent drop in crimes such as robbery, burglaries and assaults.

Mason said the wave of crimes attributed to the Night Stalker makes neighborhood watches even more important.

Herald staff writer John Fleck contributed to this story.

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in Brief

Los Ang

In Metro

The Reagan Administration will get its tax reform bill through the Democratic-controlled Congress early as Oct. 15. (Page 4.)

Disneyland has reversed its 28-year-old policy that prohibited partners of the same sex from dancing together. (Page 1.)

In Sports

Mike Marshall hit a two-run homer with two out in the eighth inning to rally the Dodgers past the Braves 2-1. (Page 1.)

In Business

Retail sales rose 0.4% in October, a scant gain that softens the dim view of the economy. (Page 1.)

Homicide Cop Is Perfect Man for the Job

By ROXANE ARNOLD,
Times Staff Writer

Sheriff's Sgt. Frank Salerno, the lead detective in the so-called "Valley Intruder" case, is everybody's idea of a good homicide cop.

"You don't want this guy following you," said one former sheriff's investigator. "Sooner or later, he's successful."

"He's as good as you can get," added Detective Sgt. Bill Williams of the Los Angeles Police Department.

The 46-year-old Salerno, who joined the Sheriff's Department in 1961, has "worked homicide" for almost 10 years. He has tracked down the flimsiest of clues in cases almost nobody remembers and, a few years back, played a key role in an investigation few can forget—the notorious Hillside Strangler case, the sex slayings of 10 young women and girls in 1977 and 1978.

Salerno's latest quarry is described as a curly haired man with stained, widely gapped teeth who



KEN LUBAS / Los Angeles Times

Sgt. Frank Salerno

slips through unlocked doors and windows before dawn to attack his victims as they sleep. At least six killings and 15 rapes, beatings and kidnappings in the San Gabriel and

San Fernando valleys are being linked to the killer.

The many months spent in the late 1970s working on the Hillside Strangler case "is going to be a great advantage in working a case like this," Salerno said. "We've got other investigators who have also worked the Hillside case."

A key lesson has to do with the behavior of serial killers.

"Bianchi (Kenneth Bianchi, one of the two killers in the Hillside case) proved one thing, and that is: most serial murderers don't stop. They might relocate. They will kill again."

"I would expect he (the Valley Intruder) would again."

About 50 investigators from six local police agencies have been drawn into the task force established last week to track down the killer. The challenge of the task force will be to coordinate and keep track of the each of the thousands of slivers of information that could mean something important.

Please see COP, Page 19

COP: Veteran Detective Leads Search for Killer

Continued from Page 1

Already, investigators have received more than 1,000 leads and tips to check, ranging from the caller who sighted a stranger resembling a composite sketch of the killer to the tipster who named a friend as a possible suspect.

A major flaw in the massive Hillside Strangler probe was that too often such information was not shared and that some investigators were not fully informed, those close to the case said.

At the height of that exhaustive investigation, a task force that swelled to 162 officers from the Los Angeles and Glendale police departments and the Sheriff's Department was established to track down the more than 10,000 clues that surfaced. Although the information gathered was fed into a computer, the data was not cross-indexed and obvious connections, at least in the case of Bianchi, were missed.

Bianchi, for example, was interviewed by investigators on separate occasions, but each time the questioning officers were unaware that Bianchi had crossed their path before.

"There were so many 'clue clowns,' I think they called them," complained Katherine Mader, a defense attorney for Angelo Buono, the second Hillside Strangler killer. "Bianchi was interviewed three times by different law enforcement officers and gave statements that were never followed up on. . . . They (the task force) would parcel out clues, but they wouldn't have enough coordination."

In the current investigation, all information is being cross-indexed,

County Posts \$10,000 Reward for Information on Intruder

The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors offered a \$10,000 reward Tuesday for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the so-called Valley Intruder, blamed for at least 6—and possibly as many as 13—slayings and at least 15 rapes, beatings and kidnappings in the San Gabriel and San Fernando valleys.

Supervisor Pete Schabarum, in whose district most of the crimes have occurred, called the attacks "a countywide problem" that has spread fear to every community.

Police and Sheriff's Department investigators say the killer enters homes through open windows and unlocked doors, attacking victims while they sleep.

The male suspect is described as thin, at least 6 feet tall, between 25 and 30 years of age, with brown curly hair. Witnesses say he has stained front teeth that are widely gapped.

Salerno said.

"You learn as you go along," he said of the Strangler investigation. "I think naturally because of the amount of information that came in on that case, mistakes are going to be made. . . . You learn from your mistakes."

"No doubt about it," Salerno added. "One of the major (improvements) is cross-indexing. We're trying to accomplish more correlation and exchange of information between the various agencies that are working. It's almost a daily contact between the investigators, and also meetings and briefings."

The fact that so many police agencies are involved poses problems that go beyond exchanging massive amounts of information.

"You have different methods of reporting, of handling evidence, of interviewing," Salerno said. "You have to try and overcome that. . . . to make sure nothing falls through."

But even with streamlined techniques, he said, the Intruder case may not be easily solved. He said the investigation may prove even more complex than other serial killings, including the Hillside Strangler case. The motivations of this killer are harder to pin down.

"Whenever you work a case, either a serial case or one that takes a lengthy period of time, the investigator develops in his own mind the type of individual he is looking for," Salerno said.

"This is a much more complex individual as far as trying to get a

handle on what kind of psychological profile he has. . . . The diversity makes it tough and then when you throw in random victims, which are the most difficult of cases to solve, you've really got your hands full."

Already, Salerno, his partner, Gil Carrillo, and the other 20 to 25 sheriff's investigators assigned to the case are working marathon shifts, sifting through myriad pieces of information.

Salerno is coming close to duplicating the seven-day weeks he worked for months during the Strangler investigation, but he says he is just one of many working those same grueling hours.

Investigators, he said, "are running out of shoe leather. . . . It's just good old-fashioned police work where people are going out knocking on doors and talking to people."

"It's the type of work that isn't shown on television. . . . It takes longer than 60 minutes plus commercials."

Exhausting hours or not, Salerno clearly loves the work and the challenge.

A solid six-footer, he looks and acts the part of a veteran detective. He is slow-talking, deliberate and cool-headed.

A family man, Salerno abandoned college for police work "way back in medieval (times)." It's a decision he says he has never regretted.

"What appealed to me is it would be an exciting job," he said. "You weren't tied to any one spot and you dealt with people. . . . I want to stay right here. I want this case solved. . . . soon."

Woman, 71, killed by burglar

She wanted to move, but no other place would take her cats

By David Cloud
Herald staff writer

Mary Emanuele had lived on the 1400 block of West 85th Street for more than 50 years and, though she had been burglarized three times recently, stayed because she couldn't find an apartment that would allow her to keep her cats.

On Tuesday night, police found the 71-year-old woman murdered, apparently strangled when she returned from work around 6 p.m. and surprised a burglar in her house.

"All her relatives were always telling her to get out of there, but no apartments would take her cats. She had a lot of cats. And she couldn't afford a new house," said her nephew, Anthony Emanuele, 61.

She had never married and worked for 35 years in the May Co. customer service department. According to neighbors, she came home every night at 6 p.m. and fed her cats.

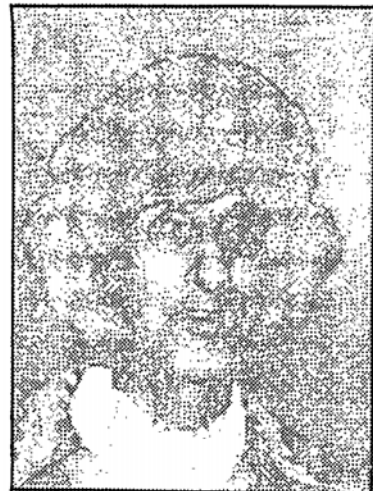
Neighbor Raleigh Irby, 40, said that he saw Emanuele come home Tuesday evening. His daughter, Jeannie, then took a kitten over to

her residence to be fed.

When no one answered the door, Irby and other neighbors came over and found Emanuele's car open and her purse on the front seat.

"The front door was ajar but with a chain across it. We called in but there was no answer. Then we knew something was wrong because she had just gone in. She had gotten sick before, and she always told us to check on her," Irby said.

Los Angeles police Detective Paul Mize said the murderer probably entered through a forced side window, but there are no witnesses and no suspects.



Mary Emanuele
Had been burglarized before

Robert Talcott elected head of Board of Police Commissioners

By John Fleck
Herald staff writer

Los Angeles lawyer Robert Talcott was elected president of the city's Board of Police Commissioners yesterday, a move expected to maintain the panel's status quo.

The 52-year-old Talcott was the unanimous choice of the five-member commission to replace Stephen Yslas as president. Lawyer Barbara Schlei, 52, was elected vice president.

Talcott, appointed to the commission by Mayor Tom Bradley in August 1984, said he does not plan any changes in the board's operation or approach to issues.

In the last year under Yslas, the commission's relationship with the police department has been an amicable one following the resolu-

tion of various conflicts. The conflicts included the use of controversial chokeholds by officers and questions about the department's now-defunct spy unit, the Public Disorder Intelligence Division.

Yslas served as president for three years.

The main issue pending before the commission involves the department's deployment policies.

The controversy over deployment centers around competing claims by residents of various parts of the city that there are not enough officers in their neighborhoods.

Talcott said that while the solution to the problem might be more money for more officers, that may not be the only answer. "It may be more money, or it may be the distribution of existing money."

Action

*Merchants Report Upsurge in Sale of Firearms and Locks as News of Serial Murders Spreads***A Fearsome Intruder Has San Gabriel Valley in Uproar**

By GARY LIBMAN

A San Gabriel-area nurse is livid at the "Valley Intruder."

"I have two guns in the house," she said. "If he came to the door, I'd kill him."

In fact San Gabriel Valley residents are so upset by the killer who enters unlocked homes at night and may be responsible for six slayings and 15 rapes, beatings and kidnappings in the San Gabriel and San Fernando valleys that they refuse to give their names in interviews.

A Monrovia man says that every night at 1 a.m. he wakes his 1-year-old daughter and drives to pick up his wife at the restaurant where she works. Since the killings became known, his wife is afraid to walk alone the few feet from the restaurant to the lot where she parks.

Locking Selves in Bedroom

An Alhambra woman says that when her husband goes to work each night she and her 3-year-old daughter shut the windows and lock themselves in the bedroom.

"I have a phone and a bathroom," she said. "So there's no need to come out."

A Monrovia professor recently moved his daughter from a downstairs to an upstairs apartment in that city, while a South Pasadena bartender says that in her bungalow complex one of the seven women over 65 stays up each night-of-the-week to watch for the intruder.

People are "buying the hell out of window

people who want to form neighborhood watches. Before the murders, calls for new watch groups had been rare.

The San Gabriel-area nurse said she is particularly angry at the intruder "because you're not even safe in your own home. It feels like a violation of privacy even though you haven't been accosted."

"I've heard he's carrying a gun and I don't know if it's true," she said, "but mine (a

I have a strong sense of person and property and a short fuse when they're violated.'

.12-gauge shotgun and a .44-caliber magnum pistol) are loaded. My profession is healing, but I have a very strong sense of person-and property and a short fuse when they're violated."

The attacks have cut across all age and sex lines.

The professor, wearing shorts while visiting an Arcadia shopping mall, said he moved to Los Angeles about 10 years ago, at the time of the Hillside Strangler.

"It was very fearful to us and our daughters, who were teen-agers," he said.

"But this seems even more horrendous



LORI SHEPLER

Lock sales are up in response to the "Valley Intruder" crimes. Here, Steve Broten, Arcadia hardware store manager, helps Cindy Wallace make a choice.

locks," and husbands are buying guns for wives as residents react to a possible serial killer who seems more fearsome because he attacks in the home and without a discernible pattern, police say.

"It's not like reading in the paper that it's happening back East," Detective Edward Winter of the Arcadia Police Department said. "When it starts happening in your town it makes you stop and think about it. That's what our citizens are doing."

"We hear a lot of people say 'I'm not sleeping well. I'm scared to death. I want to get an alarm.' I can't say it's quite a panic, but people are concerned."

"We're getting more calls from people who notice things," Lt. Joseph Santoro, commander of the community relations and crime prevention bureau of the Monterey Park Police, said. "In the past they might have rationalized what they saw and not called us."

Santoro said the police are doing 15 to 25 inspections daily for people who want to know if their homes are properly secured. They normally do eight to 10. The police are also receiving about three calls a day from

because of the fact that this person goes into people's homes. He's going into your sanctuary, your private place. That's very frightening to me, and he's doing it in such a diabolical way.

"He's not striking the same way twice and he's making it very difficult for the police, I'm sure."

The burly Monrovia man who picks up his wife after work, wearing jeans and a T-shirt and sipping a beer at an Arcadia bar, said that when his two dogs bark while he sleeps at night "I get my hockey stick and prowl the house."

"If you hear noise and you don't wake up and wonder about it (in this situation), something's wrong with you," he said.

"I used to have the windows open at night because I don't have air conditioning. Now I get home and open the windows and I get all the air I can and then shut them. At about 3:30 it's so hot you're choking."

An Alhambra office worker said that her husband used to work part time at night but stopped because she was petrified to be

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INTRUDER: Valley in Uproar

Continued from Page 1

alone. "I used to come home (and relax)," she said. "Now I come home and check all the rooms.

"During the summer when my husband would go off to work at night I used to leave the back door and the windows open. Now I'll sit in the house sweating but I won't open those doors. I'll sit in front of a fan and go wet my head.

"I was so scared that I had my husband buy me a stun gun," she said. The gun shoots two electrically charged darts that enter the skin and immobilize the body.

Turner's Sporting Goods in West Covina reported an increase in gun sales, but it was selling more than stun guns; it was doing a brisk trade in .12-gauge shotguns with an 18-inch barrel on sale at \$149.99. This is a legal weapon, not "sawed off." However, it is 10 inches shorter than the standard shotgun.

"Husbands are getting them for their wives," store manager Mike Battistoni said. "A lot of husbands are not home at night.

"Handguns have a 15-day waiting period before you can pick them up. You can take the rifle or shotgun home the same day. . . . They also want a gun that's easy to use. . . . With a shotgun, you've just got to point."

Meanwhile, Fowler's Sport Center in Pasadena reported increased

sales of .22- and .25-caliber pistols.

Police, observing these sales, cautioned that gun buyers should know how to use them.

"And if you decide you have to use it, you have to be absolutely sure to use it for a good reason, the protection of your life or someone else's," Lt. Santoro said.

"You don't want to shoot an innocent person. You have to live with that the rest of your life."

In addition to guns, residents are also seeking protection by buying more window and door locks.

Steve Broten, general manager of Ace Hardware in Arcadia, said he couldn't keep enough window locks in stock, and Roger Weiss, manager of Builders Emporium in Temple City, said customers had made a run on window and door locks, particularly dead bolts. Ole's Home Center in Pasadena also ordered more window and door locks to keep up with sales.

Those sales reflect the bizarre nature of the recent crimes.

"I trust my husband to take care of me, but I'm not even safe with him (now)," the Alhambra office worker said. "I was talking to some lady at a nightclub. She said, 'Don't worry. He's not after you. He's only after single women.'

"I said, 'Bull. He's after whoever he can get. He's just taking anyone at random. As long as he can get into your house.'"

Detectives Link 7th Slaying to 'Intruder'

By DAVID FREED,
Times Staff Writer

The March 17 fatal shooting of a Monterey Park woman has been linked to a series of six other recent slayings believed committed by the so-called "Valley Intruder," authorities said Wednesday.

Los Angeles County Sheriff's Lt. Dick Walls said the killing of Tsal-lian Yu, 30, came about an hour after another woman, Dayle Okazaki, 35, was found shot to death in her condominium in Rosemead, about three miles away.

Witnesses told authorities that a man walked up and shot Yu shortly before midnight as her car paused at a stop sign in the 500 block of Alhambra Avenue. The assailant drove away in another car.

"Based on the proximity to (the) Okazaki (murder) and the time of day it occurred, there are strong indications that (Yu's death) is connected to the others" in the intruder series, Walls said. "We're looking at everything and anything to see if it's related."

The lieutenant declined to provide additional details.

Detectives believe that Okazaki's slaying may have been the first in the series, which is being investigated by a six-agency law enforcement task force.

Okazaki's roommate, a 35-year-old woman, escaped after being

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Los Angeles Times

Thursday, August 15, 1985

INTRUDER

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accosted and shot in the hand as she returned home. Investigators said that the roommate hid behind a bush until the intruder left and then rushed into the condominium to find Okazaki dead on the kitchen floor.

Detectives have speculated that the intruder—a thin, curly haired man who sneaks through unlocked windows and doors to attack his sleeping victims—may be responsible for as many as a dozen slayings and 15 rapes, beatings and kidnappings this year, most in the San Fernando and San Gabriel valleys.

With Yu's death, seven murder cases and a non-fatal assault—in which a 16-year-old girl was bludgeoned in her Sierra Madre home—are now "definitely" linked to the same assailant, according to the task force.

Funeral

Shooting death linked to series of attacks

By LAURA NICHOLSON
Staff Writer

A seventh person, who was dragged from her car and shot March 17, was added to a killer's list of victims Wednesday when sheriff's deputies officially linked the death of a Monterey Park woman to the attacks and murders that have terrified residents of the San Gabriel and San Fernando valleys.

The shooting, not previously included among crimes believed to have been committed by the same person, oc-

curred just about an hour after Dayle Okazaki, the first of the confirmed victims, was killed in her Rosemead condominium, said Lt. Dick Walls of the Sheriff's Information Bureau.

"They've decided that there are enough similarities to think it is connected," Walls said. "We're going to confirm that it is the seventh."

Tsal-lian Yu, 30, was dragged from her car in the 500 block of Alhambra Avenue in Monterey Park about 11:45 p.m. March 17. She was shot repeatedly

before the killer fled in another car.

Okazaki, 34, who lived just two miles away, also was shot to death.

Walls would not say what other similarities led detectives to believe Yu was a victim of the man believed to have bludgeoned, shot or slashed six others.

The trail of victims that may be connected to the assailant started with the murder of Okazaki and stretches from Monterey Park to Arcadia, Monrovia, Sun Valley and Diamond Bar, officials have said.

The assaults are among about 30 in the San Gabriel and San Fernando valleys now under investigation by a special task force.

Law enforcement officials are pleased that heightened publicity through the media has made people aware of the danger, Wall said.

A task force of some 50 officers has been hunting for the killer that depu-

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Back page, this section

PASADENA STAR NEWS AUG 15 85

Attacks: March shooting death linked to others

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ties call "The Valley Intruder" because he enters homes where doors and windows have been left unlocked.

Descriptions of the assailants in the series of attacks have varied, but generally depict a person about 6-feet tall with wavy brown hair and stained, gapped teeth.

"There's hardly a case ever where two witnesses will agree on what they saw," Walls said to explain the discrepancies.

That is part of the problem investigators deal with in trying to solve cases, he said.

In Monrovia Wednesday, officials still were trying to piece together clues in a woman's

report that she was attacked by a scissor-wielding assailant Monday night.

Two investigators have worked round the clock trying to get information on the alleged attack but have no strong evidence that the incident is involved with any of the other attacks, said Lt. Robert Page of the Monrovia Police Department.

"Because of the circumstances and because of the accusations made, we took this thing seriously," Page said.

Law enforcement agencies throughout the area have added patrols, held community meetings and followed about 1,000 leads since news of the attacks spread.

STAR-NEWS AUG 15 1985



Photo by Ed Norgord
John Pankratz, California Egg Commission spokesman, was at Santa Anita Fashion Park in Arcadia recently to help promote the state's extremely large egg industry.

Egg producers use giant carton to introduce new quality seal

By ANNETTE RLETTNER

spokesperson of CEC, the logo, — California is a surplus

Experts' problem: many rapes still are unreported

Continued from Page A-1

takes place at some hospitals and in the courts, Ms. Coffey said, but it varies at different hospitals, and the courts have improved in some aspects.

At least in Los Angeles County, the sexual past of the victim is not relied upon solely as evidence for dismissal as heavily as it was in the past, said a hotline staff member.

Other aspects of the courts have not improved as measurably.

"Often when a rapist is convicted, the woman doesn't feel the sentence is severe enough," Ms. Coffey said.

The sentencing structure for sex crime offenders varies depending on the number of assaults involved, on whether a weapon is actually used or used to threaten the victim and on the number of charges attached, said Rebecca Omen of the Los Angeles County district attorney's sexual assault unit.

A convicted rapist, in general, may be sentenced to three, six or eight years, and that also can vary depending on the number of charges filed — almost always more than the initial rape charge is made.

Other charges can include sodomy, battery, oral copulation, and kidnap (transporting the rape victim), according to Ms. Omen and others who work with rape victims.

"The legislature has recognized the severity of this crime," she said, adding that violent sex crimes have the largest number of rules by which the criminal is sentenced.

"Sex crime cases are among the most difficult to set up because there are so many sentencing variables," Ms. Omen said.

The other primary reason for the large number of unreported rapes stems from guilt and social pressure.

"They just don't want their family and friends to know they've been raped," Ms. Coffey explained.

Ms. Coffey referred to figures from the California Department of Justice, Bureau of Criminal Statistics, for Los Angeles County in 1981.

Although the state estimates one out of 10 rapes are reported, Ms. Coffey said the hotline advocates handle a larger ratio of unreported crimes because of the number of women who call

and never report the crime.

Going by the estimate for 1981, more than 50,000 rapes took place in Los Angeles County alone that year.

For the entire state in 1983, the total number of forcible rape crimes reported barely topped 8,000 with nearly 4,000 reports of attempts to commit rape.

Out of some 12,000 cases reported in 1983, only a little more than 10 percent ended in the judicial system with some kind of a conviction.

In the 1981 state report on Los Angeles County, the number of rapes reported was 5,371, and of those, 1,395 adult felony arrests and 267 juvenile felony arrests were made. Out of that 30 percent, 667 complaints were filed by the district attorney, just about 40 percent.

Of the 1,662 arrests made, only 426 rapists were convicted on felony charges.

One rape victim advocate said it's like an unwritten rule: if the rape victim is still alive and has no sign of cuts or bruises, the case almost always is thrown out of court or it never makes it there.

Next: Alternatives to the criminal justice system.

NUTS By Schulz

Valley Intruder Assaults Two in Orange County

By BILL BILLITER
and MARK LANDSBAUM,
Times Staff Writers

A serial killer linked to 14 slayings in California struck in Mission Viejo early Sunday, shooting a sleeping man in the head and raping his girlfriend, investigators for the Orange and Los Angeles county sheriff's departments said.

The early morning attack, which left the man in critical condition, occurred in the 24400 block of Chrisanta Drive in Mission Viejo. As in most other crimes attributed to the so-called Valley Intruder or Night Stalker, the residence is a single-story home in a peaceful, middle-class suburb close to a freeway.

"Due to evidence found at the scene, we definitely believe this is the Night Stalker," Orange County sheriff's spokesman Lt. Dick Olson said in a statement.

Manages to Escape

Officers said the intruder entered the house as the couple slept. The woman awoke to gunshots, officers said, and then was sexually assaulted. She was tied up but managed to escape and summon police after the assailant left.

Investigators would not release the names of the victims but said both are 29. Neighbors identified the shooting victim as Bill Carnes, who works for a business machine company in southern Orange County.

Carnes was in critical condition late Sunday at Mission Community Hospital after emergency surgery for a gunshot wound, a hospital spokesman said. The woman was taken to Saddleback Community Hospital in Laguna Hills, where she was treated and released.

The assailant has been called the Valley Intruder because most of the crimes attributed to him occurred in the San Gabriel and San Fernando valleys. Law enforce-

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INTRUDER: Serial Killer Assaults Couple in Orange County

Continued from Page 1

ment officials believe the series began in March and includes 21 assaults. The victims have been shot, stabbed and beaten. Sunday morning's assault was the first in Orange County and only the second outside of the suburban Los Angeles valleys.

The last confirmed attack was Aug. 17 in the Lakeside District of San Francisco, where the assailant fatally shot a man and critically wounded the man's wife. Officers speculated a few days later that the killer might again head back to Southern California.

'Proves He Is Back'

Los Angeles County sheriff's Deputy Sam Jones said Sunday, "This proves he is back in the Southland."

Similarities between the Mission Viejo case and the method of operation in the previous crimes prompted immediate contacts between the Orange County Sheriff's Department and the 50-member Valley Intruder task force set up by the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department. At about 2:30 p.m. Sunday, both departments confirmed the link.

At 2:40 a.m. the Orange County Sheriff's Department received a call on the 911

emergency line from a woman who said her boyfriend had been shot, Olson said. When deputies and paramedics arrived, the woman said she had been "awakened by gunshots in the house this morning, and that when she woke up there was a male intruder in the house, in the room, and that he grabbed her and sexually assaulted her," Olson said.

"He then tied her up. And then he appeared to have gone through the house. He eventually left, and when he left she was able to get loose and call the emergency line."

Olson said the woman was so distraught that she could not give a clear description of her attacker. Olson declined to release any description the woman was able to give.

The Valley Intruder has been described as 6 feet tall, slender, 25 to 30 years old, with curly hair and stained, gapped teeth.

Investigators have said he usually leaves a distinctive, but not publicly disclosed, trademark at the scene of his crimes. He also has twice left a scrawled message—the exact wording has not been disclosed—on walls of victims' homes.

"I'm not aware of anything along those lines," Olson said of the Mission Viejo case.

The Valley Intruder usually enters by forcing a screen on an open window or door. Olson declined to say how the Mission Viejo attacker entered. But a 3-by-4-foot screen, which was bent as if it had been pried off a window, was found on the ground outside the house.

Most of the Valley Intruder's victims

'All of us leave our windows open. Who would think this could happen in this area?'

were living in homes painted in shades of yellow—and the Orange County attack occurred in a yellow house.

The house was cordoned off Sunday as investigators combed it for clues. Two cars parked in the driveway bore North Dakota license plates.

Frightened neighbors along the 24400 block of Chrisanta Drive buzzed with speculation at midday Sunday as they tried

to piece together what had occurred.

Few neighbors had gotten to know Bill Carnes, a former resident of North Dakota who, they said, had bought the home about six months ago. Few of them knew anything about the woman.

However, his next-door neighbor, Jim Brafford, 35, an engineer at Burroughs Corp. in Mission Viejo, worked in the same office as Carnes. "I know Bill, he's a heck of a nice guy," Brafford said, adding that Carnes works in product assurance and support at the computer firm.

Brafford and his wife, Sheila, rent their home and planned to move this Friday to a home they are buying. But after Sunday's attack, "my wife wants to move today," Brafford said. "My wife is beside herself with this thing."

"We were wondering why them and not us," said Brafford, holding his 2½-year-old daughter, Jessica.

Like many neighbors, the Braffords had kept some windows open on the sultry Saturday night.

"I was up until 11 trying to get the air conditioner fixed," Brafford said. "But we didn't hear or see anything until the sheriff's (deputies) came over at 8 (a.m.)."

"All of us leave our windows open," said

Diane Cox, who with her husband and two children lives across the street. "Who would think this could happen in this area?"

"I'm shocked," she said. "Here we were last night with the windows open because of the heat. It's real scary."

Cox, who has lived on Chrisanta Drive for 13 years, said that as soon as she heard of the attack she felt the Valley Intruder had struck again, "and that's real frightening."

Heard Woman Crying

"We will put additional locks on our doors," she said. "The police said to keep our dog in the house at night."

A few doors away an elderly woman, who asked that she not be identified, said she heard a woman crying in the street about 2 a.m., but "I didn't go out." The woman placed no particular significance on the crying because "it was Saturday night," and there had been a party on the street earlier in the evening, she said.

The party, which included adults and children, had been at the Braffords and broke up at about 10 p.m., Jim Brafford said. He said neither Carnes nor the woman attended.

Obscene phone caller caught with pants down

Associated Press

An obscene phone caller in Gardena dialed a woefully wrong number — 911 — seemingly unaware that all calls to that emergency line are traced, officials said.

A dispatcher who answered the 911 line about 3:30 a.m. Tuesday hung up after she was greeted by a slew of lewd language. This happened twice more before the dispatcher decided to keep the man on the line as the 911 system's computer automatically traced the call to its source.

When two officers arrived at the booth, the caller dropped the phone and ran through a parking lot. Officers pursued him and captured a man they later identified as George Neale, 21, of Gardena.

'Night Stalker' coverage

I listened the other night to a TV commentator speak out against the way the press was handling the story of the "Night Stalker." I think many people will agree that this monster is being made a celebrity. However, reports of his crimes — their effect on people and the frustration of the police — are important news items.

I often wonder how a conscientious reporter handles the fine line between news that will help the public and news that is only sensational and will sell papers. I am getting tired of the expression: "The public has a right to know." Yes, we do, if knowing certain things will give us information we need to protect ourselves, or afford us peace of mind. If "knowing" simply means satisfying our morbid curiosity, I think that the privacy and health of people should be considered before the gory, sensational details are given out.

DOROTHY SUNDIN

Bell

HEARLD - 8-18-85

Enclosure

Night Stalker strikes in Mission Viejo

Man shot, woman assaulted

By BRANDON BAILEY
and SELWYN EIBER
Staff Writers

MISSION VIEJO — The Night Stalker apparently has struck again, this time shooting a young man in his bedroom here and sexually assaulting his girlfriend early Sunday morning, Orange County authorities said.

A 29-year-old woman told sheriff's deputies she woke to the sound of gunshots sometime after midnight. An intruder shot her boyfriend in the head, then sexually assaulted the woman and left her tied up.

William Carns, 29, was in critical condition Sunday night at Mission General Hospital, where he underwent surgery for gunshot wounds in the head, authorities said.

"Based on evidence that was found at the scene, we believe it was the Night Stalker," Orange County Sheriff's Lt. Robert Benson said.

Authorities declined to say what that evidence is. However, it appeared the intruder entered Carns' one-story house through a back window — in a manner similar to other Night Stalker attacks.

Orange County detectives reached their conclusion after consulting with Los Angeles Sheriff's detectives from the police task force assigned to the Night Stalker case, Benson said. The killer is believed responsible for 13 slayings in Los Angeles County and one death in San Francisco.

The last attack linked to the Night Stalker was the shooting death last weekend of an elderly San Francisco man, whose wife

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Page A-5

Stalker: Two in Mission Viejo attacked; case linked to others

Continued from Page A-1

was also shot and beaten. Investigators have said they do not know where the killer might be.

Carns' house in the 24400 block of Chrisanta Drive, in Mission Viejo, though located in a quiet suburban neighborhood, sits on a main street less than a mile from an offramp of the Golden State (5) Freeway. The freeway is a major route between San Francisco and San Diego, near the Mexican border.

The attack in Mission Viejo, about 50 miles south of Los Angeles, marks the first time the Night Stalker is believed to have struck in Orange County.

In addition to the 14 previous killings, authorities believe the man may be responsible for 19 other rapes, assaults and kidnappings in the San Gabriel and San Fernando valleys of Los Angeles County.

In many of the killings, investigators believe the intruder entered through an unlocked door or window. Authorities declined to say how the attacker got inside Carns' house, but a next-door neighbor said that detectives found a bent screen on the ground outside an open rear window.

That window was the only one

left open as investigators combed through the house Sunday afternoon. The screen was placed inside a Sheriff's Department van, said Jeff Karp, 19, a neighbor.

Carns' girlfriend managed to escape her bonds and reach the Sheriff's Department at 2:40 a.m., Benson said.

The woman was not beaten or shot, said Capt. Jim Guess of the Orange County Sheriff's Department. She was treated at both Mission Community Hospital and at Saddleback Hospital in Laguna Hills before being released, hospital spokeswoman said.

Neighbors said the woman ran across the street to get help from a friend, who rode with her to the hospital. The friend declined to be interviewed.

Some items were stolen from Carns' house, said authorities, who declined to say what was taken.

"We're not going to talk too much about the evidence we've found," Guess said, citing concern that too much information was made public after the San Francisco assault.

Sheriff Sherman Block of Los Angeles County had especially criticized San Francisco Mayor Dianne Feinstein and unidenti-

fied police departments for announcing that ballistics tests had matched the San Francisco attack to others in the series. Block said the information might lead the killer to get rid of the gun he used or otherwise change his habits and become more difficult to catch.

The Los Angeles Sheriff's Department had no official comment on Sunday's case, because Mission Viejo is in the Orange County Sheriff's jurisdiction, said spokesmen for the Los Angeles agency.

Both departments are cooperating and sharing information, said Deputy Joe Garza, a Los Angeles Sheriff's spokesman.

Sunday's attack left neighbors terrified in Mission Viejo, an affluent residential community where violent crime is rare.

"Just the night before last, I saw (a report about the Night Stalker) on the news and they were saying, 'Close all your doors and windows.' And I didn't really think, you know, in Mission Viejo..." Karp said.

"We live right across the street and our window was open, so it's kind of scary. We don't understand how he picked that particular house," said Helen Griffith, another neighbor.

Police schedule two new town meetings

In an effort to disseminate information related to recent homicides in Arcadia and other cities and to provide home security and safety tips, the Arcadia Police Department will conduct two more town meetings.

These will be held:

— Aug. 21, Wednesday, at 7:30 p.m. at Baldwin Stocker School, 422 W. Lemon Ave., Arcadia.

— Aug. 28, Wednesday, at

7:30 p.m. at Foothill Junior High School, 171 E. Sycamore Ave., Arcadia.

Police will answer questions and there will also be displays which demonstrate certain types of locks and home securing devices. Literature on home safety will also be available.

For further information, contact Officer Don Alcorn at 574-5474.

ARCADIA TOWN MEETING 8/21/81

No news on suspects in beatings

Los Angeles County Sheriff's Deputy Lynda Edmonds says there are no new developments to report from her office concerning leads of the suspect or suspects responsible for killings and/or beatings of women living in the upper San Gabriel Valley during June and early July.

"We are still checking leads but there is no additional information to report. We have no information that other such assaults similar to those have occurred in the area. There were similarities and dissimilarities in those reported," Edmonds told The News Tuesday.

Florence Lang and her sister, Mabel Bell, were found in their home in Monrovia June 1. Both had suffered many injuries and their home was ransacked. Mrs. Bell died two weeks ago of the injuries sustained.

On June 28, Patty Higgins was bludgeoned in her upper body at her Naomi St. home in Arcadia. Her throat was also cut and she was dead when neighbors found her.

On July 2, Mary Cannon was found dead in her Haven St. home in Arcadia. She had been bludgeoned in her upper body and her throat was slit. Her home had been ransacked.

On July 5, a 16-year-old female was bludgeoned in her upper body in her Arno St. home in Sierra Madre in the early morning hours. She survived.

On July 7, Joyce Nelson of Monterey Park was beaten to death on her upper body in her Arlight home. There was evidence of a burglary.

Later that day a Monterey Park woman was

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No news on suspects

Continued from Page 1'

raped in her home and she survived.

Arcadia Police Lt. Larry Ostler told The News Tuesday morning that two separate incidents happening in Arcadia two weeks ago are unrelated in nature and type from the incidents reported above.

A woman observed a holdup at the Jack In the Box restaurant at Colorado and Rosemead, and followed the robbery vehicle. They shot at her when both vehicles were in the approximate location of Duarte and Baldwin in Arcadia. She swerved to miss the shots and was in a minor auto accident. That ended her chase. Arcadia Police turned the file over to the sheriff's department since the robbery did not occur in that town.

Another incident that occurred that same evening was at Santa Anita and Colorado in which shots were exchanged but no one was injured.

Lt. Ostler said the cases were totally dissimilar to the other crimes happening in June and July in the upper San Gabriel Valley.

'Stalker' suspect cornered?

By SELWYN EIBER
Staff Writer

Sheriff's deputies and local police departments were conducting a "house-to-house, block-to-block" search late Monday night and early today in San Marino for a possible suspect in a series of nighttime attacks and murders that have terrorized residents of the San Gabriel and San Fernando valleys.

The search was taking place in a two-block area around San Gabriel Boulevard and Huntington Drive, an area on the border between county territory and San Marino.

As part of the search, helicopters made tight, low passes over the San Gabriel Country Club about midnight, an eyewitness said.

Sheriff's deputies and officers from San Marino, San Gabriel and Temple

City, among others, were "going house to house, doing all the yards and knocking on doors," Deputy Joe Garza said.

As the ground search progressed, deputies in the helicopters used loudspeakers to urge frightened residents to lock their doors, a radio station reported.

The search began after San Marino police attempted to stop a car in the area about 8:45 p.m. and the driver

jumped out of the car and fled on foot, said Capt. Jack Yeske of the San Marino Police Department.

Before the driver fled, a San Marino officer "saw enough of him that he thought he resembled the suspect" from composite drawings, Garza said. The suspect has been described as 6 feet tall, 150 pounds with brown curly hair and stained, gapped teeth.

Yeske said there was evidence in the

car that led police to believe the man who fled might be the suspect, but he wouldn't describe what police had found.

Yeske speculated that the incident began as a result of an attempt by officers to make a routine stop.

The driver pulled into the driveway

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Search: 'Night Stalker' cornered by police?

Continued from Page A-1

of the first house south of San Gabriel on Huntington before sprinting off into the neighborhood, Yeske said.

The area was cordoned off and, in addition to police officers, four dog teams were called in to conduct the search.

A 62-year-old Alhambra woman who was watching the search, said, "I'm like everybody else. I'm worried. I'm very concerned." The woman said she had been carrying around a can of mace for protection the past two years, but recently "made sure I got a brand new can."

Dubbed the "Night Stalker" and the "Valley Intruder," the suspect is believed to be responsible for as

many as 30 assaults and murders over the past six months. Seven slayings, including bludgeonings and slashings, have been confirmed by investigators as believed to have been committed by the same person.

The multi-agency task force investigating the killing spree is the largest that has been mobilized in Los Angeles County since the Hillside Strangler case.

Investigators have refused to say what characteristics link the murders they have confirmed as fitting the killer's pattern.

Another six or so murders may be related, officials have said.

Staff writers Becky Bartindale and Brandon Bailey contributed to this report.

San Marino search for 'Stalker' proves false alarm

Teen-ager fled from officers

By BRANDON BAILEY
Staff Writer

An intensive house-to-house search of a San Marino neighborhood became a false alarm Tuesday when a person police thought resembled the killer who has terrorized the San Gabriel Valley turned out to be a teen-ager who later surrendered to authorities.

The youth turned himself in at 4 a.m. Tuesday, seven hours after fleeing

police who stopped him Monday night for driving erratically and with an expired vehicle registration.

The 17-year-old Monterey Park resident told police he ran because he believed he was wanted in connection with a trespassing charge filed in Juvenile Court, Monterey Park Police Capt. Robert Collins said.

The search, aided by helicopters and dogs, was called off at 1 a.m. when police decided their cordon had failed to catch the young man.

Three hours after the search ended, the teen-ager turned himself in at the Monterey Park police station, San Marino Police Capt. Jack Yeske said.

"After their preliminary investigation, (sheriff's homicide detectives) feel that the (teen-age) suspect is probably not the one being sought after in the San Gabriel Valley murders," said Deputy John Broussard, a sheriff's department spokesman.

A combined force of nearly 40 police officers and deputies began combing through two square blocks in San Marino Monday night, believing they might have cornered the suspect in the so-called "Night Stalker" case.

A San Marino officer who briefly saw

Please see **SEARCH**,
Page A-8

Search alarms local residents

By BRANDON BAILEY
Staff Writer

Helicopters with searchlights flew low over the San Marino neighborhood. Bullhorns instructed residents to stay inside, while armed men with dogs went from house to house.

People huddled in their homes, peeked out windows and exchanged news and rumors by calling neighbors on the phone.

"It was the most frightening thing in my life," a woman said Tuesday afternoon. "We were scared stiff."

The woman, who did not want her name published, said she and her husband decided to spend the night away from home. They left about 11 p.m. Monday, two hours after police began searching their neighborhood for a man who, at that time, was considered a possible suspect in the so-called "Night Stalker" killings.

"I was scared to death last night," said another woman who opened her

Please see **RESIDENTS**,
Page A-8

Search: Teen-ager fled from police

Continued from Page A-1

the driver reported that he resembled the suspect in the serial killings, who is described as being 6 feet tall and weighing 150 pounds, with curly brown hair and stained, gapped teeth.

Police contacted Tuesday couldn't provide a detailed description of the 17-year-old, although Collins said the youth doesn't resemble a composite drawing of the murder suspect. But, Collins added, as the composite sketch is circulated widely, a lot of people stopped by police "are beginning to look a lot alike."

The youth's name was withheld because of his age. The car he abandoned was registered to his mother, San Marino Capt. Jack Yeske said.

Authorities hadn't decided Tuesday whether the youth would be charged with resisting arrest. He

was released to the custody of his mother, Collins said.

A major police task force is probing the series of deadly assaults that has swept the San Gabriel and San Fernando valleys. Sheriff's homicide detectives have linked seven murders to the same killer. As many as 25-30 other slayings and assaults may be the work of the same attacker, deputies said.

Homicide detectives were called to San Marino Monday night because officers found items in the abandoned car that led them to believe the driver could be the serial killer, Yeske said.

He and other law enforcement spokesmen declined to elaborate on that point, explaining that the murder investigation could be compromised if too much information is released.

Authorities declined even to identify the type of car that the Monterey Park youth was driving.

Broussard described the vehicle as "a small foreign car."

Los Angeles police broadcast a radio bulletin Monday night that said a maroon-colored Pontiac Grand Prix is being sought in connection with one of the slayings. Police believe that car was used by the man who killed a Sun Valley resident July 20, Los Angeles Police Lt. Dan Cooke said.

The description has been broadcast "from time to time" since the incident, to remind officers on patrol, Cooke said.

"There have been several vehicles linked to different cases" under investigation by the task force, but "there is no indication that the suspect is using the same car" in all the cases, Monterey Park Police Chief Jon Elder said.

Besides helping the search in San Marino, the sheriff's department was alerted about 6:45 p.m. Monday when a deputy drove past a Pasadena restaurant and thought

he saw a man inside who resembled the description of the serial killer.

Deputies from the Altadena Sheriff's Station surrounded Pinnocchio's Pizza, at 1427 N. Lake Ave., and called the man outside, Broussard said. After some delay, the man came out.

"He started to pull a pistol from his waistband but was rushed by several deputies before he could use it," sheriff's Sgt. Neal Tyler said. No shots were fired. Gregory Raul Gayon, 46, was arrested on suspicion of assault and carrying a concealed weapon, but homicide detectives later ruled him out as a suspect in the serial killings.

The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors agreed Tuesday that private donors may contribute to a reward fund, already containing \$15,000, for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the serial killer.

Residents: Neighborhood alarmed by search

Continued from Page A-1

front door to a reporter on Tuesday. She had to speak in a loud voice, through an iron gate that she kept closed across her doorway, because her two medium-sized dogs never stopped barking.

While a major police task force has been investigating a string of 25 or more brutal assaults in the San Gabriel and San Fernando valleys this summer, none of the cases have occurred in the affluent residential community of San Marino.

But Monday night, authorities thought they might have a suspect in the crime wave, after San Marino police Officer Scott Edmonds tried to stop a young man who was driving erratically in a car with

expired registration tags.

The young man, who later surrendered to police and was ruled out as a suspect in the attacks, stopped his car in a driveway and fled, leaving in his car several undisclosed items that police at first thought might be linked to the killings.

Hoping to catch the youth, San Marino police blocked off an area bounded by Huntington Drive, San Gabriel Boulevard, Lorain Road and Blackstone Road.

Police and sheriff's deputies rushed to the scene from Temple City, San Dimas, Industry, Arcadia, Alhambra and San Gabriel. As officers and deputies began searching every back yard in the area, a number of worried resi-

dents gathered at the police command post behind the San Marino Post Office.

"Our switchboard lit up so full ... it was horrendous," said San Marino police Capt. Jack Yeske.

Even after police called off the search at 1 a.m., Yeske said the calls continued to come into the police station most of the night.

"I was awake at 5 a.m. to hear the first newscast," said the woman with the dogs.

Police continued routine patrols, but they had become convinced the youth managed to escape before the area was sealed off. "If there was a chance at all that he was still there, we would still be there (searching)," Yeske said.

Authorities said Tuesday they were not sure where the youth

spent the time between 9 p.m., when his car was pulled over, and 4 a.m., when he turned himself in at the Monterey Park police station.

Public concern extended beyond San Marino borders Monday night. At the command post were several Arcadia residents who said they are frightened by the crime wave and decided to come out after they saw early reports on television news.

Several residents interviewed Tuesday praised the police for their response to the incident. "I would rather they err in having too many people (searching) than not enough," a woman said.

"I try to be reasonably careful," the woman added, "but I refuse to live in fear."

San Gabriel Valley Daily

TRIBUNE

Aug 21. 25

Walnut gets Valley Killer hotline

By GARY HOPKINS
Staff Writer

A command center and hotline are to be set up in Walnut for a task force of community volunteers formed to mobilize residents against the serial murderer known as the Valley Killer.

On Tuesday, officials of Diamond Bar-Walnut Elks Lodge No. 2626 approved the use of the lodge as the base of operations for the task force.

The building is located at 20250 E. Carrey Road in Walnut.

Volunteers at the lodge will man the hotline supplying San Gabriel Valley residents with up-to-date information about the search for the killer and will give residents advice on how to safeguard their homes, said Bob Beidelman, exalted ruler of the lodge.

In addition, lodge members will help distribute fliers bearing a composite drawing of the killer to area businesses, he said.

The operation will be financed by the Elks through their charitable program, Beidelman said.

"That's the purpose of the Elks Lodge — to serve the people," he

said. "We're always looking for ways to help and support the community."

The task force was proposed by Diamond Bar Municipal Advisory Councilman Paul Horcher last week after the killer's latest attack — the Aug. 8 murder of a

Diamond Bar man.

So far, the police have linked the same man — a prowler who enters homes in the early hours of the morning through unlocked doors or windows — to seven murders and between 20 and 30 assaults.

Killer reward fund donations taken

Private contributions are being accepted for the reward fund set up for information leading to the arrest of the man wanted in a string of murders in the San Gabriel and San Fernando valleys.

The fund was established Tuesday by the county Board of Supervisors.

Last week, the board allocated \$10,000 as a reward for information on the killer.

Supervisor Pete Schabarum who suggested both actions, said he was contacted by several private citizens who wanted to contribute to a reward fund.

The man being sought in seven murders and a series of assaults in the two valleys is approximately 6 feet tall, weighs 150 pounds and has curly brown hair and stained teeth.

He usually strikes at night, entering homes through unlocked doors or windows.

Anyone who wants to contribute to the reward fund should contact the board's executive office at (213) 974-1401.

Anyone with information about the suspected killer should contact the county Sheriff's Department.

The attacks have occurred primarily in the San Fernando and San Gabriel valleys.

Volunteers will soon begin distributing 1,000 copies of a police composite drawing of the killer to businesses in the Walnut and Diamond Bar area, Horcher said Tuesday.

"Our first priority is to get to the night businesses, such as doughnut shops and Stop N Go's," he said.

"We don't want him to strike twice in this area."

The toll-free hotline — (1) (800) 352-5225 — should be in operation by the end of the week, he added.

Northminster Presbyterian Church in Diamond Bar has also pledged to provide volunteers for the task force, Horcher said.

He added that he intends to seek additional support from the city councils of seven or eight Valley communities next week.

Capt. Don Webster of the sheriff's Industry station last week praised Horcher's task force proposal, saying "any assistance from the citizenry that helps to enhance and increase the awareness of the public can only help."

HAVE WE GOT A NAME FOR YOU

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August 21, 1985

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LOS ANGELES HERALD

773

EXAMINER

State of siege in San Marino during Night Stalker search

By Mark S. Warnick
Herald staff writer

As helicopter lights illuminated the area and authorities ordered people behind locked doors, frightened residents of a neighborhood in posh San Marino became prisoners in their own homes during a frantic search for a fleeing suspect said to resemble

the vicious Night Stalker.

The residents, told only of "a police action in operation," remained inside for nearly five hours Monday night as a loud-speaker blared warnings and police dogs sniffed the yards of nearly 100 houses.

"It gave us a real strange feeling of being trapped," said

Stalker/B-2, Col. 1

Teen focus of search not Night Stalker, officials say

Stalker/Continued from A-1

homeowner Elizabeth Johnson.

The unsuccessful search was called off early yesterday when investigators became convinced the subject of the manhunt had fled and was not the brutal serial killer.

Several hours later, however, the 17-year-old suspect surrendered to Monterey Park police. He told authorities he ran because he has an outstanding juvenile warrant.

Police said yesterday the youth was not considered the suspected Night Stalker, who has been linked to at least 14 attacks — including seven murders — in the San Gabriel and San Fernando valleys. The teen-ager was not held, although authorities said he could be charged with resisting arrest.

Monday night's search included low-flying helicopters, four police canine units and more than 40 officers from six local law-enforcement agencies. It scared homeowners in the two-block area — bounded by San Gabriel Boulevard, Lorain Road, Blackstone Road and Huntington Drive — and prompted an unprecedented number of telephone calls to the San Marino Police Department.

"Our switchboard was so deluged that calls were being forwarded into individual phones in the office," said police Capt. Jack D. Yeske. "It's the first time I've ever seen that happen."

Some residents said they were eating dinner when the search began, while many others were watching television or relaxing outside.

Instructions from a helicopter loudspeaker ordered residents to go inside — with their pets — lock all doors and windows and turn on



Resident Elizabeth Johnson says search "gave us a strange feeling of being trapped."

outside lights.

"We didn't want another victim and we didn't want innocent people walking around back yards being confronted by police officers and dogs," Yeske said.

The incident, which served to heighten anxiety in an area already alerted to the recent wave of attacks, left the neighborhood buzzing yesterday.

"I don't think I'm going out of the house without something in my hands," said resident Cecilia Bloomquist.

A member of a Neighborhood Watch group, Bloomquist said her block has made a commitment to watch out for each other. A neighbor who suspects something unusual has her permission to search her back yard and even look through a window, she said.

"Even if I was undressed, I wouldn't feel it was an invasion of privacy," she said. "I'd rather have that than something happen."

The intensive search began when the teen-ager, whose name was not released, ran after being stopped near San Gabriel Boulevard at Huntington Drive about 8:30 p.m. Monday. A San Marino police officer had noticed the youth was driving erratically and had an expired registration, said police Lt. Hal Havens.

As the officer tried to stop him, the youth drove his car into a driveway, jumped out and leaped a fence. The officer was within 10 to 15 feet of the suspect, but could not catch him, Havens said.

The officer immediately radioed authorities that the suspect matched the general physical description of the Night Stalker.

The Night Stalker has been described as Anglo or Hispanic, about 6 feet tall, 25-30 years old with dark, curly hair and gapped, discolored teeth.

Interest in the search heightened when investigators found in the youth's abandoned car evidence strongly supporting a possible link to the serial killer, Havens said. Authorities would not comment on that evidence yesterday.

In another incident Monday night, a man who resembled the suspected Night Stalker was spotted by a sheriff's deputy inside a Pasadena pizza parlor. After other deputies arrived, the man, Gregory Gayon, 46, was ordered outside, said Deputy Mike Ford. When Gayon started to pull a pistol from his waistband, he was disarmed by deputies and booked for assault with a deadly weapon. Sheriff's investigators, however, eliminated him as a potential suspect in the Night Stalker killings, Ford said.

Anne Knudsen/Herald photographer

Two Trails Turn Cold in Search for 'Valley Intruder'

By DAVID FREED, Times Staff Writer

Authorities investigating the so-called "Valley Intruder" slayings thought they had a break in the baffling case: a driver who had fled on foot from a San Marino policeman after a routine traffic stop closely resembled a composite drawing of the killer.

An all-out search was launched in the neighborhood around Huntington Drive and San Gabriel Boulevard where the driver melted into the night Monday. Roadblocks were erected. Four tracking dogs were called in. Thirty officers from several agencies went house to house while a sheriff's helicopter circled overhead, its bullhorn warning residents: "Stay inside, lock your windows and doors."

But the massive effort was in vain. The object of the manhunt, who surrendered about 4 a.m.

Tuesday to Monterey Park police, turned out to be a frightened, 17-year-old youth from Monterey Park who had been driving his mother's car without permission.

Authorities said that evidence found in the car absolved the youth of any involvement in the series of slayings. Detectives, however, would not describe the nature of that evidence.

It was the second incident so far this week in which authorities initially thought that they were close to the thin, gap-toothed suspect with curly hair believed responsible for at least seven slayings and as many as 13 other rapes and beatings since March in the San Fernando and San Gabriel valleys.

In nearly every incident, people have been attacked in unfenced, poorly lighted homes by a man who

sneaks through unlocked doors and windows.

On Monday night, a Los Angeles County sheriff's deputy walked into a pizza parlor on Lake Avenue in Pasadena and spotted a man resembling the widely circulated composite drawing of the intruder. The deputy called for help and other deputies soon arrived, Deputy John Broussard, a Sheriff's Department spokesman, said.

The man, identified as Gregory Raul Gayon, 46, was ordered outside. As he left, Gayon allegedly attempted to pull a pistol from his pants and the deputies disarmed him, Broussard said. Gayon was taken into custody on weapons-related charges.

While arresting deputies were hopeful that they had captured the intruder, investigators from a multi-agency police task force working

on the case soon eliminated Gayon as a suspect.

"It seems that there was no correlation between either of these two suspects and the Valley Intruder," said San Marino Police Capt. Jack Yeske.

In addition to the drawing, made from information provided by survivors and witnesses of the intruder's attacks, the Sheriff's Department, which is coordinating the investigation, has received nearly 1,000 tips from citizens, many of whom are convinced they have seen the man.

"We are running into a lot of people who do bear a resemblance" to the drawing, Broussard said.

"The sightings are becoming more and more common, and calls for service are up 10% to 50% throughout the sheriff's jurisdiction. All of the stations are extremely busy because every one of those calls is considered a priority."

Meanwhile, the county Board of Supervisors on Tuesday unanimously voted to expand its \$10,000 intruder reward fund by accepting private donations. Under the plan, approved on a 3-0 vote, money deposited in the fund would be paid for information leading to the intruder's arrest and conviction.

San Francisco area attack similar to 'Stalker' killings

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — The "night stalker" suspected in a series of grisly murders in the San Gabriel Valley may be responsible for a recent slaying in the San Francisco Bay Area, authorities said.

Los Angeles homicide investigators met Wednesday with San Francisco authorities to discuss similarities between a murder case

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Page A-7

Murders: San Francisco slaying similar

Continued from Page A-1

in San Francisco and the serial killings in the San Gabriel and San Fernando valleys.

San Francisco Police Lt. Dennis Schardt refused to comment on the meeting or discuss the details of the local murder case.

Also known as the "valley intruder," the man has terror-

ized San Gabriel Valley residents by sneaking into homes through unlocked doors or windows and attacking his victims while they sleep.

At least eight deaths, one as recent as Aug. 8, and 18 rapes and assaults have been linked to the killer, police said.

A conference between homicide investigators from the San

Francisco police, Los Angeles sheriff's and Los Angeles police departments was scheduled Wednesday night at the downtown San Francisco Hall of Justice, City News Service in Los Angeles reported.

The meeting was called at the request of San Francisco detectives now investigating last weekend's apparent murder, the news service reported.

Killer switches cars, police tell Arcadia crowd

By **BRAD HAUGAARD**
Special Correspondent

It appears the suspect in a series of murders that have terrorized the San Gabriel Valley is using a variety of vehicles, so police are not able to alert the public to watch for a certain make of car, acting Arcadia Police Chief Neal Johnson told about 120 Arcadians gathered at Baldwin Stocker School Wednesday night for a second briefing on the killings.

In response to a question, Johnson said the first drawing of the suspect, released by Monterey Park Police, was based on inadequate information and a later sketch, showing a curly haired, leaner man, is believed to be more accurate.

He said that since July 1, Arcadia police have been following up on 15 to 25 leads a day, and they have been giving reports regarding more distant locations to other law enforcement agencies.

Lt. Richard Honaker said officers are even following up possible leads from out of state. Of the eight to 10 of these, he said, none appears to be connected to

the local case.

Honaker added that police are studying physical evidence, but it cannot be discussed in public.

Lt. Dave Hinig, another speaker at the meeting, said that if the murderer "continues to work this area, it is likely he will be caught by this (Arcadia) police department."

"If it walks or talks or moves in this town," Hinig said, "it's going to be shaken down."

Johnson said police stopped one person in Tiny's Restaurant on Santa Anita Avenue and Huntington Drive, and then just a short time later stopped him again as he rode his bicycle down Santa Anita Avenue. One man, he said, has been checked out five times. Police, he added, are also making numerous random stops of single people in cars at night.

Johnson said that since July 1, 26 new neighborhood watch groups have been started in Arcadia.

A third briefing will be held 7:30 p.m. Wednesday at Foot-hills Junior High School, 171 E. Sycamore Ave., Arcadia.

Sheriff's deputy says 'Lock up and light up'

For a little while Monday evening and early Tuesday, police and sheriff's deputies thought they might have cornered the male who has been attacking and murdering people in the San Gabriel and San Fernando Valleys since as far back as March.

However, the suspect for whom authorities combed San Marino and the county area turned himself into Monterey Park police at 4 a.m. Tuesday. He is a male juvenile who had traffic warrants against him and was afraid he was going to be arrested.

He is the same individual who was stopped by a San Marino policeman Monday about 8:45 p.m. The suspect took off by foot and an officer who was 20 feet away felt the suspect bore some resemblance to the so-called "Night Stalker" or "Valley Intruder" who has terrorized this area for months.

The "Stalker" is described as about 6 feet tall, 150 pounds, with curly brown hair and stained, gapped teeth.

A house-to-house, block-by-block search took place in a two-block area around San Gabriel Blvd. and Huntington Dr. Monday. Helicopters and four dog teams joined the foot search to no avail.

The four-hour search in San Marino was discontinued Tuesday at 1 a.m.

County Sheriff's Deputy John Broussard told The News Tuesday that all law enforcement agencies are reporting up to 50% more calls, causing stations to be considerably busier than before the murderer started his devastating swath through the valleys. People are reporting all suspicious persons or instances.

We do not want to create a false sense of security in any of the towns. The suspect seems to diversify (his MO) and is using bludgeoning weapons, guns, knives," Broussard says.

Of the "25 to 30" recent attacks seven are definitely attributed to the "Stalker" or "Intruder," Broussard explains.

Those seven include the following:

- Tsal-Lian Yu, female, Monterey Park, Mar. 17, murdered;
- Dayle Okasaki, female, Rosemead, Mar. 17, murdered;
- Mabel Bell, female, Monrovia, June 1, mortally injured and died later;
- Patty Elaine Higgins, female, Arcadia, June 28, murdered;
- Mary Cannon, female, Arcadia, July 2, murdered;
- Chainarong Khovanath, male, Sun Valley, July 20, murdered (LAPD case);
- Elyas Abowath, male, Diamond Bar, Aug. 8, murdered.

Broussard says there are no similarities in age, sex or nationality. The killer has used blunt objects to bludgeon victims to death, guns to shoot them to death and knives.

Broussard reiterated that a task force has been formed and members are looking into all leads and responding to any sightings related to the suspect.

The News asked Broussard if the suspect could have changed how he looks so that the composite which was printed in last week's edition would not resemble the suspect. Broussard says that is always possible.

"Lock up and light up every night and report all strange activity," Broussard cautions everyone.

entire community is con-



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'Stalker' chase proves false alarm

By BRANDON BAILEY

Special Correspondent

An intensive house-to-house search of a San Marino neighborhood became a false alarm Tuesday when a person police thought resembled the killer who has terrorized the San Gabriel Valley turned out to be a teen-ager who later surrendered to authorities.

The youth turned himself in at 4 a.m. Tuesday, seven hours after fleeing police who stopped him Monday night for driving erratically and with an expired vehicle registration.

The 17-year-old Monterey Park resident told police he ran because he believed he was wanted in connection with a trespassing charge filed in Juvenile Court, Monterey Park Police Capt. Robert Collins said.

The search, aided by helicopters and dogs, was called off at 1 a.m. when police decided their cordon had failed to catch the young man.

Three hours after the search ended, the teen-ager turned himself in at the Monterey Park police station, San Marino Police Capt. Jack Yeske said.

"After their preliminary investigation, (sheriff's homicide detectives) feel that the (teen-age) suspect is probably not the one being sought after in the San Gabriel Valley murders," said Deputy John Broussard, a sheriff's department spokesman.

A combined force of nearly 40 police officers and deputies began combing through two square blocks in San Marino Monday night, believing they might have cornered the suspect in the so-called "Night Stalker" case.

A San Marino officer who briefly saw the driver reported that he resembled the suspect in the serial killings, who is described as being 6 feet tall and weighing 150 pounds, with curly brown hair and stained, gapped teeth.

Police contacted Tuesday couldn't provide a detailed de-

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August 22, 1985

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LOS ANGELES HERALD

Night Stalker may have hit Bay Area

*L.A. investigators
meeting S.F. police*

By Mark S. Warnick
Herald staff writer

A brutal murder inside a San Francisco home last weekend could be linked to recent attacks committed by the Night Stalker, the vicious serial killer terrorizing the San Gabriel and San Fernando valleys, authorities said yesterday.

Two investigators from the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department task force working on the Night Stalker case went to San Francisco yesterday to confer with police there about a possible connection between the attacks, according to officials.

"Because of certain similarities between a murder case in this city and the recent serial murders in the Los Angeles area, investigators from both jurisdictions are meeting to determine if the cases are related," said Officer Joanne Welsh of the San Francisco Police Department.

The Night Stalker has been linked to 14 attacks — including seven murders — in the Los Ange-

Stalker/A-9, Col. 1

Police check Night Stalker link to Bay Area slaying

Stalker/Continued from A-1

les area and might be responsible for as many as 30 such incidents, according to investigators.

He attacks his victims after entering darkened homes through unlocked windows or doors.

The investigators went north at the request of San Francisco police, said sheriff's department Deputy Joe Garza. It was the first time members of the task force have traveled out of the area to look at a case that may be linked to the crime wave in the valleys, he said.

"At this point, we've got a big nothing," Garza said of the possibility that the Night Stalker committed the San Francisco murder. "We've gone to check some information and that's it."

San Francisco police refused to

discuss or even identify the case being investigated, but it is believed to involve a brutal assault on an elderly couple inside the bedroom of their Lakeside district home. That attack, which left a 66-year-old man dead and his wife seriously wounded, is the most recent San Francisco murder with similarities to the Night Stalker cases.

The murder victim, Peter Pan, died of a gunshot wound to the head, according to a police report. His son — who does not live at the home — found him lying in his bed about 10 a.m. Sunday, the report said.

Barbara Pan, 62, was discovered on the bedroom floor, seriously wounded from a gunshot wound to the head. She also may have been beaten by her attacker, police said.

Pan remains hospitalized in sta-

ble condition.

The couple was last seen alive about 8:30 p.m. Saturday by a daughter who had been visiting for dinner, police said.

Several neighbors questioned by investigators said they noticed unusual occurrences outside their homes between 9 and 10 p.m. Saturday. One neighbor saw a light shine by her window curtain and another said she heard "a baby crying or whimpering," according to the police report.

Both neighbors said they looked outside to investigate, but didn't see or hear anything further.

Another man living near the Pans in the upper middle class neighborhood told police he saw the couple's front light on about 10 p.m. Usually, the man said, the couple's home was dark at that time.

San Francisco police said the suspect entered the Pans' house through a side window or door on the ground level of the two-story house. They would not say if the suspect forced his way inside.

7 killed in British

Thursday, August 22, 1985

On Guard: Angels Rush In

**As Residents Worry Over
'Valley Intruder' Crimes,
Volunteer Patrol Gets
Recruits Ready for Action**

By SUE AVERY, Times Staff Writer

A few curious homeowners flicked on their outside lights and peeked out as a dozen men and women wearing red berets walked briskly, two abreast, along Burton Avenue. It was after 10 p.m., and residents on this quiet street in San Gabriel, edgy because of the so-called Valley Intruder and news of a rape in the area the night before, were caught off guard by the unusual nighttime activity.

The patrol was one of several that have been conducted by prospective members of the fledgling San Gabriel Valley chapter of the Guardian Angels. And by the time they got to Burton Avenue, it had been a long evening.

They had gathered at 7:30 at Arcadia County Park for two hours of fitness and self-defense training, as well as preliminary instruction in cardiopulmonary resuscitation and first aid. Most of the trainees were young men between the ages of 16 and 25, and five in the group were women, the oldest a 51-year-old mother from Monrovia.

The Monrovia woman, who asked not be identified, said she got involved after attending a July 22 meeting in Sierra Madre called by members of the Los Angeles chapter of the Guardian Angels, a volunteer group that conducts unarmed patrols primarily in high-crime areas.

The group organized in 1979 to patrol subways in New York City, where muggings and purse-snatchings are common. It grew rapidly and now has 5,000 members in 59 chapters nationwide. It organized in Southern California in 1981, and now has chapters in South-Central Los Angeles, the Westside and Hollywood. Members generally patrol in heavily crime-ridden areas to guard against criminal assaults on innocent people or property.

The group serves chiefly as a visual deterrent, but if members



LELAND HOLDER / Los Angeles Times

Steve Duncan uses Mickey Chakerian to show how to restrain a mugger.

witness serious crimes they try to make citizen's arrests and detain the suspects until police arrive, said Scott McKeown, coordinator of the group in Los Angeles county.

"We are not vigilantes," he said. "We don't carry weapons."

The Guardian Angels first came to the West San Gabriel Valley to patrol on July 11 at the request of two worried Arcadia residents who called asking for help. The group held the Sierra Madre meeting to

Please see ANGELS, Page 6



Danny Lewis demonstrates self-defense with Phillip Luvisi.



Guardian Angels on patrol in a Rosemead neighborhood.

ANGELS: Volunteer Patrol Group Forms Valley Unit

Continued from Page 6

get community response to a particular crisis and when the crisis is over we will lose some members. But a core will stay," McKeown added.

"The first goal is to have people patrol their own community," Lewis said. "Then we have regional events to sustain the interest and sometimes members patrol other areas (where there is more crime activity)."

Lewis believes that San Gabriel Valley residents have made a good start in forming their own Guardian Angels chapter, but training is only the beginning.

"Nobody has taken a major leadership role here yet," Lewis said. "Usually when we are setting up a new chapter we first get a training coordinator, then a patrol coordinator, then a chapter event coordinator, and then one person emerges as a leader."

"We hope to have this chapter on its own feet sometime next month but we still need a headquarters," McKeown said the group hopes someone will donate the use of a warehouse in a commercial area.

"I don't think a bunch of noisy Angels coming off patrol at 3 a.m. would be welcome in a residential neighborhood," he said.



The Guardian Angels got a mixed reaction when they first came to patrol in middle-class San Gabriel Valley neighborhoods. Many residents of Arcadia, Sierra Madre and Monrovia, where the group has been patrolling nightly from 9 p.m. to 3 a.m. since the middle of July, have welcomed their presence, feeling it serves as a deterrent to crime.

'We are stepping up the normal training process because of this crisis and some (recruits) have done eight patrols.'

—**Scott McKeown**
Los Angeles County coordinator,
Guardian Angels

But some law enforcement officials have been lukewarm to the group, especially when the members first arrive in an area.

"We have had no problem of them interfering with us in any way but I feel they are not effective walking our streets at night. They do better patrolling buses or subways," said Capt. Neal Johnson, acting chief of the Arcadia Police Department.

But in Los Angeles, where the group has been operating for four years, Lt. Dan Cook, spokesman for the Los Angeles Police Depart-

ment, praised the group and its efforts.

"They have never caused us any problems and it was never their intention to be a vigilante group," he said. "We regard them as an extension of Neighborhood Watch and appreciate their work. We have no objection to them being here because we need their help."

Like local police, residents have mixed feelings about the group.

"My neighbors and I have seen them on the street and we like their presence," one Arcadia resident said.

"I wasn't even aware of them," said another. "I probably would have been frightened if I saw them because I would not have known who they were."

'Like Tough Street Kids'

A third attempted to sum up the feeling of the community.

"Some people view them negatively because Arcadia is a very conservative community and they look, talk and walk like big city kids. They look like tough street kids."

"People in Arcadia are not used to seeing strangers on the street. The kids mean well but their background makes people nervous," she added. "And nobody wants to admit we need them here. This is a totally new experience for us."

"People will be happier once they get to know them. And they will feel more comfortable if kids from the area get involved."

Police Chief Requests Hearing

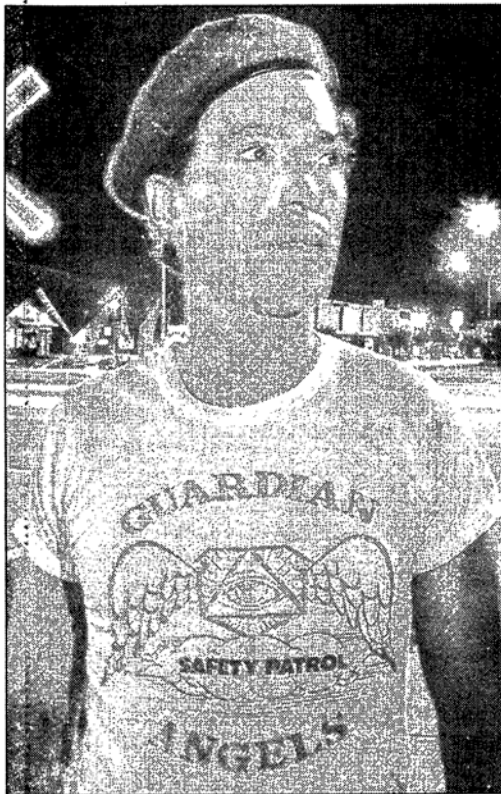
SOUTH PASADENA—Embattled Police Chief Samuel L. Buntyn has requested a hearing to block the city's efforts to fire him. The city had notified Buntyn that he would be terminated automatically last Tuesday unless he asked for the hearing. The termination date has been suspended pending the outcome of the hearing, City Manager John Bernardi said.

A draft of a letter of termination obtained by The Times shows that Buntyn faces 10 charges, including allegations that he tried to influ-

ence a promotion board of review and sexually harassed a subordinate. Buntyn's attorney, Ronald Stillman, said he has asked for more documentation of the charges.

"There was virtually no detail at all or substance in terms of what investigation had been done into the allegations," Stillman said. "The information provided to us at this point in time was really not sufficient for us to be able to answer the charges."

ANGELS: Volunteer Group Forms San Gabriel Valley Foot Patrol Unit



LELAND HOLDER / Los Angeles Times

Danny Lewis, director of the Westside chapter of the Guardian Angels, has been training recruits in the San Gabriel Valley in physical fitness, self-defense and how to make a citizen's arrest.

Continued from Page 1

introduce members to the community and to encourage local residents to set up a San Gabriel Valley chapter, McKeown said.

An orientation meeting was held July 26, and about 25 people are now in training. Most of the trainees, who come from South Pasadena, El Monte, Temple City, Arcadia, Monrovia, Sierra Madre and San Gabriel, appear to come from middle-class backgrounds, in comparison to what McKeown described as the widespread image of Guardian Angels as inner-city toughs.

The women, most in their late teens and early 20s, expressed concern over the crime wave and said they enjoyed the camaraderie of the group.

The Monrovia woman's motivation was somewhat different from that of the younger women trainees. "I asked them to talk to our Neighborhood Watch meeting, and then I decided to join the group," she said.

"On patrol I mostly have been talking to people and doing public relations," encouraging residents to accept the group's presence.

"And with the training I feel more in control and I feel I know how to handle myself."

Others Patrol in Cars

McKeown said that although the main focus of the Guardian Angels is foot patrol by younger people, in other areas of the country the group also has car patrol divisions manned by older people as an extension of Neighborhood Watch.

He said that after the San Gabriel Valley foot patrol division is established, he hopes to start car patrol.

But foot patrol is of primary interest to the younger trainees, who often become involved in the Guardian Angels through their friends. Among the current group of trainees are three 16-year-olds

who attend Monrovia High School.

"I joined because I am interested in cleaning up the city," said Joe Russell, who was at his third training session. He persuaded his friend, Mike Knight, to enroll, and then another friend, Toby Zucco, joined them.

According to Danny Lewis, director of the Westside chapter of the Guardian Angels, who has been overseeing the training of recruits in the San Gabriel Valley, prospective Guardian Angels go through an open-ended series of training sessions held twice a week. The sessions involve strenuous workouts in physical fitness, self-defense techniques, citizen's-arrest procedures (including the use of handcuffs) and foot-patrol techniques.

They also learn the rules under which Guardian Angels operate nationwide. Training time varies, depending on fitness and maturity levels. Prospective members become Guardian Angels only after they have completed the training, sometimes in as little as four weeks.

No Criminal Records

Candidates for membership must be at least 16 years old and provide at least three personal references. They are interviewed and asked if they have criminal records. A minor juvenile offense might not preclude membership, but a felony record would. The group says the training program itself will screen out those who lack sufficient commitment or stamina. Trainees are subjected to verbal abuse as a test of temperament, hidden biases and willingness to obey commands.

Trainees may be dropped for poor attendance, failure to keep up with the group, refusal to follow orders or showing up under the influence of drugs or alcohol or in possession of weapons.

The fitness training is rigorous, involving running, push-ups and sit-ups, and most of the trainees did not finish the required 35 push-ups.

Before lining up in formation, they frisked each other, searching for weapons and drugs, which Guardian Angels are forbidden to carry. No knives or large flashlights are allowed.

After lining up two abreast, with trainees in the middle and Guardian Angels equipped with walkie-talkies front and rear, the group set out. When Lewis yelled, "Double time!" it was a signal to run; when he yelled "Clear!" the group came to a halt.

Trainees walk on sidewalks or at the edge of the road and are warned to avoid potential attackers by being alert not only to the street

beside and behind them, but also to roofs.

They traveled at a fast walk south on Rosemead Boulevard to Broadway, where they headed toward San Gabriel. After an uneventful night, they regrouped in the park at 11:30 p.m.

After going through this routine for several weeks, McKeown said, "some of the trainees are close to being ready (for membership). We are stepping up the normal training process because of this crisis and some have done eight patrols."

"Generally chapters start from a situation like this—it is typical to

Please see ANGELS, Page 7

Slaying of S.F. Man Linked to Valley Intruder

By ERIC MALNIC,
Times Staff Writer

Homicide investigators have confirmed that a weekend slaying in San Francisco is linked to the recent "Valley Intruder" killings and assaults in the San Gabriel and San Fernando valleys, Los Angeles County Sheriff Sherman R. Block said Thursday.

The Sheriff's Department declined to reveal how the attacks in cities 400 miles apart were related, saying only that clues found there have convinced members of a special task force sent to San Francisco that there is a common denominator.

"We can't say that it is the same individual (who committed the San Francisco slaying), only that it is related," said Sgt. John Broussard of the Sheriff's Information Bureau. "It would be poor investigation to rule out copycats or additional suspects."

Clues Withheld

Broussard said the clues found in San Francisco and evidence found here cannot be made public at this time for fear of compromising the continuing investigation.

The Valley Intruder—described by survivors as a gap-toothed, curly headed man in his late 20s or early 30s—is believed responsible for at least seven killings, and perhaps as many as a dozen, as well as 15 rapes, beatings and kidnappings in the Los Angeles area since last March.

Now, investigators say, he is the prime suspect in the attack in San Francisco on accountant Peter Pan, 66, and Pan's wife, Barbara, 64.

Please see **INTRUDER**, Page 30

INTRUDER: Link to S.F. Slaying Confirmed

Continued from Page 1

San Francisco police say the Pans were shot with a small-caliber weapon by an intruder who apparently entered their Lakeside District home through an unlocked door or window sometime between 10 p.m. Saturday and 10 a.m. Sunday. The assailant ransacked the home before fleeing, investigators said, but they were unsure if anything had been taken.

The Pans were found Sunday morning by a son who stopped by for a visit. Peter Pan, an accountant, was dead at the scene. His wife was taken to San Francisco Gener-



Peter Pan

al Hospital, where she was reported in stable condition Thursday.

San Francisco police would release no further details of the investigation, but Capt. Diarmuid Philpott did say that 70 extra officers have been assigned to the Pan slaying and that patrols throughout the city have been increased.

Also, undercover officers were briefed at a meeting Thursday night on the modus operandi of the Valley Intruder, who usually slips into darkened homes through un-

locked doors and windows, attacks victims as they sleep and then ransacks the home.

Some of those slain here were shot, others were stabbed or beaten. Several of those slain and assaulted were sexually abused, including at least one male.

The first killing attributed to the Intruder occurred March 17, when Dayle Okazaki, 35, was found shot to death in her condominium in Rosemead. About an hour later, investigators said, a man walked up to a car in which Tsal-lian Yu, 30, was sitting alone at an intersection in Monterey Park and shot her to death.

On June 1, Mabel Bell, 84, and her sister, Florence Lang, 81, were found severely beaten in their home in Monrovia. Mabel Bell died; Florence Lang is still convalescing in a nursing home.

On June 28, Patty Elaine Higgins, 32, was found dead at her home in Arcadia. Police said her throat had been slashed. Four days later, the body of another Arcadia resident, Mary Cannon, 75, was found in her home. Her throat also had been slashed.

Killed While Sleeping

On July 20, Chainarong Khovanath, 32, was shot to death as he slept in his home in Sun Valley. His wife was assaulted and his 8-year-old son was beaten. Two weeks after that, Elyas Abowath, 35, was shot to death in his home in Diamond Bar and his wife was assaulted.

"He is extremely diversified, cunning and very dangerous," Broussard said. The sheriff's sergeant warned that linking the intruder to a crime in the Bay Area does not mean that residents here should relax their vigilance.

"We're still telling people (here) to lock up and light up," Broussard said. "We don't want to give a false sense of security."

While detectives have said nothing about the clues linking the attacks, Dr. Harvey Schlossberg, a forensic psychologist in New York,



Associated Press

Reporter and detectives outside house where killing occurred.

said clues in serial murder cases usually include some form of specific trademark left by the killer.

"Each killing is a lot like an artist's painting, based on the artist's needs and wishes, so there has to be some sort of element that ties them together," said Schlossberg, a former director of psychological services for the New York Police Department who worked on the so-called "Son of Sam" murder case. David Berkowitz pleaded guilty to the murders of six women and the attempted murders of seven other people in New York City in 1976 and 1977.

"In these serial murders, you have the same dynamic. Each one has the same touch that will distinguish it from anyone else's,"

Schlossberg said.

An exception to this, he said, would be if the intruder's killings were motivated by the urge to rob. However, descriptions by police have not indicated that robbery was the primary motive.

In Los Angeles, Sheriff's Sgt. Frank Salerno, a veteran homicide investigator who played a key role in the infamous "Hillside Strangler" murders in 1978 and 1979, said another attack would come as no surprise to him.

"Most serial murderers don't stop," he said. "They might relocate. They will kill again."

Times staff writers Bob Baker and Carol McGraw contributed to this story.

S.F. death linked to 'Stalker'

Elderly man latest victim, police reveal

By BRANDON BAILEY
Staff Writer

A killer linked to at least seven slayings in the San Gabriel and San Fernando valleys shot to death an elderly man in San Francisco five days ago, police said Thursday.

"There's absolutely no question in my mind that this man" — the so-called Valley Intruder or Night Stalker — "was in San Francisco," said Chief Cornelius Murphy of the San Francisco Police Department. Murphy warned it was "likely the killer could strike again" in his city.

After conferring with sheriff's detectives from Los Angeles County, San Francisco police announced Thursday that "physical evidence" has led authorities to link the Los Angeles area murders to the killing of a San Francisco man found shot to death in his bedroom.

Authorities declined to elaborate on why they believe the cases are related.

"They're not talking about that," said Deputy John Broussard, a Los Angeles Sheriff's Department spokesman who said detectives believe their investigation would be compromised if this information became public.

The body of Peter Pan, a 66-year-old accountant, was discovered Sunday in the affluent San Francisco neighborhood near Lake Merced. His home was ransacked and his 64-year-old wife, Barbara, was found unconscious near her husband. Police said the woman had been shot in the head and struck in the face.

A Los Angeles news service reported late Thursday that a maroon Pontiac reported in one of the Valley Intruder killings had been seen outside the Pan home. City News Service also said a message scrawled on the wall inside Pan's house connected that murder to the Los Angeles County crime wave. The news service didn't identify the source of its information.

The Los Angeles Sheriff's Depart-

Please see STALKER,
Page A-8

Stalker: 'Absolutely no question' killings linked

Continued from Page A-1

ment is heading up an inter-agency task force that is investigating more than 25 rapes, assaults and murders. In most of the cases, the victims were attacked by a man who got into their homes through an unlocked door or window.

"Our homicide investigators have confirmed the San Francisco Police Department homicide case is related to the Valley Intruder cases currently under

investigation here in Los Angeles County," said a spokesman for Sheriff Sherman Block.

Los Angeles authorities have identified seven killings in the recent crime spree as the work of the same man. On Thursday San Francisco detectives had clearly linked their case to two of those, which they declined to name.

Broussard, however, acknowledged that the Pan assault has some resemblance to an Aug. 8 killing in Diamond Bar and July

20 incident in Sun Valley.

In each of those cases, the attacker shot a man to death and sexually assaulted the man's wife. Police didn't say whether Barbara Pan was sexually assaulted.

The attacker in both the Sun Valley and Diamond Bar cases matched the description that detectives used to prepare a composite sketch of the Valley Intruder suspect, who is believed to be about 6 feet tall, with curly brown hair and

stained, gapped teeth.

Despite the statements of police, an expert in criminal psychiatry told the Star-News Thursday he doesn't believe the man responsible for the killings in Los Angeles County would travel to San Francisco and commit murder again.

It's more likely the San Francisco murderer is a "copycat," said Dr. Alfred Coodley, a clinical psychiatry professor emeritus at the USC School of Medicine, who has examined crimi-

nals as a consultant to the Los Angeles Superior Court and the state parole system.

Citing widespread publicity given the murders in Los Angeles County, Coodley said, "a certain percentage of individuals who were right on the brink of committing (a similar crime) are now more prone to do so."

In both Northern and Southern California Thursday authorities advised residents to continue with precautions such as

locking all doors and windows at night and to be observant.

"The absolute worst thing we could do right now is let down our guard," said Monterey Park Police Lt. Joe Santoro, "because all it's going to take is one phone call (from a citizen who reports a suspicious individual) to break this case."

If the killer is in San Francisco, added Arcadia Police Capt. Neal Johnson, "that doesn't necessarily mean he's going to stay there."

BREAK THE SPELL AND WIN \$

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LOS ANGELES HERALD

EXAMINER

Night Stalker sends chills through S.F.

By Mark S. Warnick and Jeff Gottlieb
Herald staff writers

SAN FRANCISCO — This city began trembling yesterday with the same fear and panic that has shaken Los Angeles in recent weeks, as authorities linked the vicious Night Stalker serial killer to a murder here.

The place that enjoys being so different from Los Angeles suddenly possessed strikingly similar characteristics: fearful residents, increased police patrols and distribution of a haunting, police artist's composite sketch of a curly-haired man with gapped, discolored teeth.

It's that man — believed responsible for at least seven murders in the San Gabriel and San Fernando valleys — who police here describe as the suspect in an attack inside a San Francisco home earlier this week. The incident left a 66-year-old man dead and his wife seriously wounded.

Both were shot once in the head with a small-caliber gun after someone broke into their home, authorities said.

Killed was Peter Pan, 66, an accountant at San Francisco General Hospital. His 62-year-old wife, Barbara, a Crocker Bank employee, remains hospitalized in stable condition. She has not provided a description of her attacker to investigators.

San Francisco police said the connection between the attack here and two cases in Los Angeles was based on physical evidence found at the murder scene.

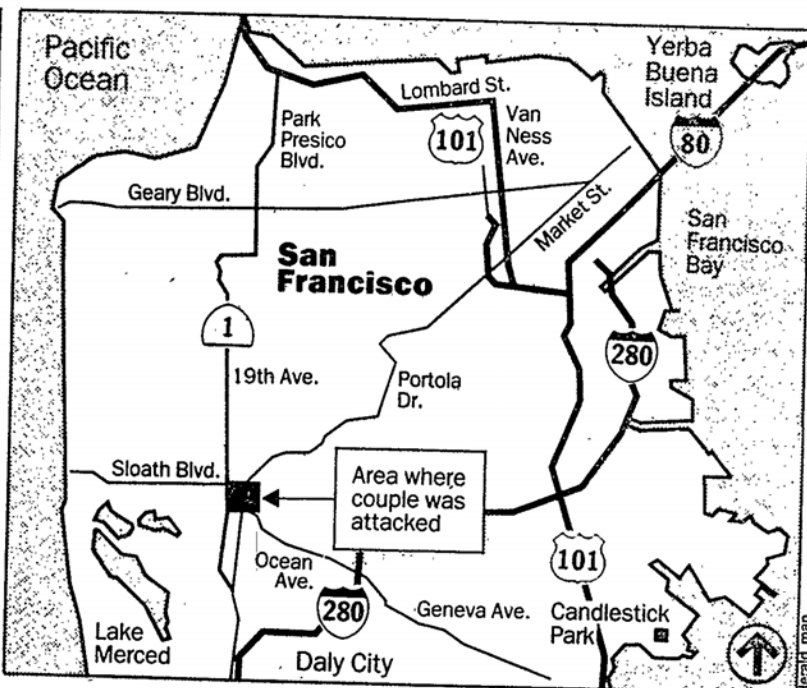
"There are very, very direct similarities," said Cmdr. Frank Jordan of the San Francisco Police Department. The evidence includes a message the killer scrawled at the Pan home, according to a source close to the investigation.

In addition, the source said, a 1978 Pontiac Grand Prix linked to one of the Los Angeles cases was spotted near the Pans' house. The car is either maroon or brown and has several dents.

To emphasize the importance of the case, San Francisco Police Chief Cornelius Murphy met yesterday with other top-level police officials and representatives from the department's nine stations. All officers on patrol were shown the



Map, right, shows San Francisco home of Peter Pan, who Bay Area police say may be latest victim of Night Stalker.



Night Stalker moves north

Stalker/Continued from A-1

composite drawing of the suspect. "When it's likely he'll strike again, we need to take all the steps necessary," Murphy said.

Los Angeles County Sheriff Sherman Block, whose department is coordinating a multiagency investigation of the Night Stalker, also confirmed the San Francisco link to the mass murderer yesterday. The suspect might be responsible for at least 30 attacks in the Los Angeles area, according to task force members.

He attacks his victims after entering darkened homes through unlocked doors or windows. His weapons have included a gun, a knife and a blunt instrument.

Los Angeles County sheriff's officials said yesterday that no other murders are being reviewed by Night Stalker investigators. However, because the killer appears to have moved to San Francisco doesn't mean he won't return, they said.

"We don't want our community to drop its guard," said sheriff's Deputy John Broussard. "They should treat the incident as if it took place here."

Los Angeles sheriff's deputies continue to be flooded with tips from citizens. "People see him all over the place," one detective said yesterday.

Official reaction to the Night Stalker here was exactly the same as that in Los Angeles, with authori-

"There are very, very direct similarities," including a message the killer scrawled at the San Francisco victims' home.

Cmdr. Frank Jordan
San Francisco Police Department

ties warning residents to lock their doors and windows and to be on the alert. In addition, San Francisco police sent an extra 80 to 90 plainclothes officers to patrol city streets last night.

"This will continue for an indefinite period until we evaluate what's next," Jordan said.

In the Pans' upper-middle-class neighborhood near Lake Merced, frightened residents said yesterday they were contemplating purchasing home alarms or securing their doors and windows. They were the same fears voiced in recent weeks by residents of such Los Angeles County cities as Rosemead, Arcadia, Northridge and Diamond Bar — all places hit by the Night Stalker.

"I'm scared to death," said Asya Mandelbaum, a next-door neighbor

of the Pans. "We're talking about installing bars over the windows or putting in an alarm."

"I never thought about that before, but this is very serious."

The Lakeside District where the Pans were attacked is a quiet, residential area with rows of two-story homes lining the streets.

Authorities believe the suspect entered the Pans' house through a side window hidden from the street and neighbors some time Saturday night. The Pans were found in their bedroom about 10 a.m. Sunday by their son, who does not live at home.

"Everybody feels touchy about this," said a neighbor who asked not to be identified. "We were hoping it was more of a gang thing than some sick guy."

The man said he planned to install bars over his windows and locked gates in front of his doors.

One young woman living across the street from the Pans said she had taken extra precautions in recent days, including placing a chair in front of her basement door.

"We're making sure we're locking up more carefully," said the 21-year-old, who also asked that her name not be used. "And we talk to our neighbors on the phone to check up and make sure everything's OK."

Like others, she too couldn't quite believe the attack on the Pans. "It was a shock because I never thought anything like this would happen here."

Los Angeles Times

Saturday, August 24, 1985.

Los Angeles Times

Stars?

I also noticed that nobody ever
breathed a word about Pol Pot as
he murdered one-third of a popula-

Ballistics Tests Tie Slaying in S.F. to 'Valley Intruder'

By ERIC MALNIC and MARK ARAX, *Times Staff Writers*

At least three different forms of evidence link the "Valley Intruder" to killings in San Francisco and the Los Angeles area, it was learned Friday.

These links are said to be ballistics tests, messages scrawled on walls and a "distinctive" piece of evidence the killer leaves behind in the homes of his victims. Not all three types of evidence are found in each of the cases.

Meanwhile, at a news conference late Friday, Los Angeles County Sheriff Sherman R. Block said "We have now definitely tied 14 murders (including the one in San Francisco) to this individual and possibly as many as 33 individual cases that have occurred."

Before the announcement investigators had linked the killer to only seven deaths (five others were under investigation) and a total of 27 attacks, including 15 rapes, beatings or kidnappings. The sheriff said details of the additional murders and other crimes would be released late Friday.

San Francisco Mayor Dianne Feinstein told a news conference earlier in the day that the ballistics tests established the tie between a weekend homicide there and at least two of the 13 slayings in the San Fernando and San Gabriel valleys attributed to the killer.

A police official familiar with the investigation said the homicides in which the killer has used a weapon other than a gun are related by other "subtle but definite" evidence left behind in the homes of the victims. This evidence has been found in a majority of the cases and is "so distinctive" that it will enable police to rule out "copy cats," the official said.

Message on Wall

Other sources said another clue—a specific message scrawled on a wall—was found in both the home in which the San Francisco couple were attacked and in the home of at least one victim in the Los Angeles area.

In addition, members of the 50-member interagency team set up to investigate the case are known to

be looking into other common factors—including the fact that many of the victims—"a disproportionate number," as one investigator put it—are of Asian descent.

The team has sent dental charts believed to be those of the killer to more than 3,000 dentists in the Los Angeles area. The charts were obtained from a dentist whose business card was found in a stolen automobile. Investigators believe that the car, recovered in March,

A specific message scrawled on a wall was found in both the home in which the San Francisco couple were attacked and in the home of at least one victim in the Los Angeles area.

had been used by the intruder during the abduction of a child. The dentist told police that the patient—who had used a phony name and address and had paid in cash—matched the description of the intruder. Investigators say little further evidence was recovered from the car.

The team is also continuing to check out reports that a maroon or brown 1978 Pontiac Grand Prix—possibly with a damaged right front fender—was spotted near the scene of a killing in Sun Valley. The team is discounting reports that a similar car was seen near the home of the San Francisco victims.

The Valley Intruder has been described by survivors as a curly haired man in his late 20s or early

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INTRUDER

Continued from Page 1

30s with gapped and rotten teeth.

On Thursday, Block confirmed that the intruder had been linked to the weekend shooting in San Francisco that left accountant Peter Pan, 66, dead, and Pan's wife, Barbara, 64, in critical condition with a bullet wound in the head.

On Friday, Feinstein also announced a \$10,000 reward for information leading to the conviction of the killer. The San Francisco reward is in addition to the \$10,000 posted by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors and to two anonymous donations—\$10,000 from one donor and \$10 from another—to the supervisors' reward. The city of Arcadia, where two slayings linked to the Valley Intruder occurred, has posted a \$5,000 reward.

Responding to a reporter's question, Feinstein said a ballistics test was the key link between the San Francisco and Los Angeles-area attacks. A police official in Los Angeles said the tests showed that the gun used on the Pans was also used in two murders here—one in Sun Valley, the other in Diamond Bar.

Both Feinstein and the official declined to elaborate on the caliber of the gun or other specific findings, but the San Francisco mayor did appeal to the public for any leads in the case.

"Somewhere in the Bay Area, someone is renting a room, an apartment or a home to this vicious serial killer," Feinstein said, indicating a belief that the killer may still be in Northern California. Investigators in Los Angeles say he may have returned to the Southland.

A police official said the "subtle but definite" evidence that links the Los Angeles-area murders is something that's "common, but not kinky. . . ."

Sources close to the case have declined to describe the words scrawled on the walls other than to deny they were "Jack the Ripper," as reported by some news media. The FBI has prepared a psychological profile of the Valley Intruder based on information provided by Los Angeles County sheriff's deputies, Los Angeles police officers and other Los Angeles-area peace officers involved in the case.

On Friday, John Holford, public information officer for the FBI in San Francisco, said San Francisco police are providing additional information that will be sent to the FBI Academy in Quantico, Va., to flesh out the profile.

At his Friday news conference Block also criticized some police agencies and news organizations for releasing what he called "very crucial, sensitive" information regarding the search for the killer.

"This places our community in jeopardy . . . and it impedes our ability to go forward with our investigation," he said.

Times staff writers Mark A. Stein and Dan Morain contributed to this story.

PRE-DAWN INS RAID DARKENS

Saturday
August 24, 1985

Final news " "
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**LOS ANGELES
HERALD**

773

EXAMINER

Night Stalker has killed 14

L.A. sheriff now links 33 cases to fiend

By Mark S. Warnick
Herald staff writer

The vicious Night Stalker serial killer, who has terrorized Los Angeles County and San Francisco, has been linked to at least 14 murders and also may be responsible for as many as 19 attacks, Sheriff Sherman Block said during a rare late-night news conference yesterday.

Investigators have reported some forms of evidence linking the Night Stalker to the San Francisco killings:

- Unspecified evidence has been found in victims' homes where the killer used a weapon other than a gun. Police say this evidence is distinctive enough to rule out copy cats.

- A message scrawled on a wall was found in the home of the San Francisco couple attacked last weekend and in the home of at least one Los Angeles-area victim.

- Ballistics tests show the San Francisco incident and at least two of the killings in the San Fernando and San Gabriel valleys are connected.

- A man said to match the description of the Night Stalker reportedly visited a Southern California dentist recently, but gave a false name and address. A key element of the description is that the suspect has gapped, discolored teeth. Investigators have now distributed what they believe to be dental charts of the Stalker to 5,000 dentists in the state.

Night Stalker/A-6, Col. 2

L.A. sheriff now links 14 murders to Night Stalker

Night Stalker/Continued from A-1

At his Hall of Justice briefing last night, Block said he expected the killer to strike again and complained about the release of sensitive information surrounding the investigation.

"No one knows where this individual may strike next," Block said, warning that authorities fear he probably will attack again. "We believe this individual will continue the way he has been going until he is stopped."

The murders linked to the Stalker have occurred in the San Gabriel Valley, the San Fernando Valley, Whittier and San Francisco, Block said. In almost all cases, the most obvious common thread has been the suspect's method of operation: nighttime attacks inside darkened homes after entering through an unlocked door or window.

Five of the 14 murder victims have been Asian, but Block said he didn't think the Stalker has been targeting persons of any particular race.

"The evidence would tend to

indicate, that, based on the entry, the individual goes into neighborhoods and looks for places with easy access," he said.

During the hastily called press conference, Block complained that some law enforcement agencies have disseminated sensitive information that "has significantly jeopardized the investigation."

The information was given out after the Stalker was linked to the San Francisco murder.

"Perhaps the most critical improper release of information was the information relating to our contacting the dentists seeking assistance and secondly the ballistics linkage between some of the cases," he said.

The string of murders tied to the serial killer began March 17 in Rosemead. The suspect's most recent murder occurred some time last Saturday night in San Francisco.

Authorities reported Thursday that the San Francisco murder and the slayings in Los Angeles suburbs had been linked by "physical evidence" found at the murder scenes. Yesterday authorities reported that

14 murders linked to Night Stalker

By BRANDON BAILEY
Staff Writer

At least 14 people have been brutally murdered by the killer dubbed the Night Stalker, Los Angeles Sheriff Sherman Block said Friday in a hastily called late-night news conference.

Block added six people to the previously released list of eight victims. Most were elderly. All were killed late at night inside their homes.

"Evidence has been developed which

definitely links this individual to 14 murders and possibly as many as 33 cases," Block said.

All six of the new victims were San Gabriel Valley residents.

Vincent Zazzara, 64, and his 44-year-old wife, Maxine, were killed March 27 in their home in county area outside Whittier. William Doi, 65, was shot and killed May 14 in his Monterey Park home. His 63-year-old wife was beaten and raped. Joyce Nelson, 60, was beat-

en to death in Monterey Park July 7. On July 20, a Glendale couple, Maxon Kneiding, 68, and his wife, Lela, 64, were shot to death in their bedroom.

The other killings and most of the assaults have occurred throughout the San Gabriel and San Fernando valleys as part of a wave of violence that has terrified people across the county.

"We believe this individual will continue the way he has been going until he is stopped ... either when he is

apprehended or encounters someone ... who stops him," Block said.

The sheriff called the press conference after San Francisco Mayor Dianne Feinstein announced earlier Friday that the gun that killed a San Francisco accountant last weekend was linked to a dozen Los Angeles County murders.

Block made it clear that he was upset by the disclosures, which included the previously unrevealed facts that ballistics tests had shown the same gun was

used in some of the murders.

"The more (the killer) knows about what we know, the better he can conceal his identity," Block said.

"A week ago we didn't have a heck of a lot to work on. As of now, we have even less."

Block said that ballistics tests linked the guns in several of the cases, but

Please see MURDERS,
Page A-6

Murder: Night Stalker linked to deaths of at least 14 people

Continued from Page A-1

would not elaborate.

Guns were not used in all the Los Angeles County homicides police believe were committed by the killer, however.

The victims also include two Arcadia women whose throats were slashed and one Monrovia woman who died after being beaten severely.

Police are warning San Francisco residents to lock their doors and windows at night. Officials said a special task force of 70 San Francisco police officers and detectives has been assigned to find the killer, while other uniformed and plain-clothes officers are being paid overtime to patrol residential neighborhoods.

Peter Pan, a 65-year-old San Francisco accountant, and his wife were attacked last Saturday night. Barbara Pan, 64, was shot in the head and bludgeoned; she remained hospitalized and unconscious in serious condition Friday.

The killer apparently entered

the Pans' two-story house through an unlocked window, police said. The Los Angeles area killings also were committed by someone who entered the victims' homes through open windows or doors.

The apparent similarity between bullets fired in the San Francisco and Los Angeles County attacks was mentioned by Feinstein as she announced a \$10,000 reward her city is offering for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the killer.

"Somewhere in the Bay Area, someone is renting a room, an apartment or a home to this vicious serial killer," Feinstein said at a press conference. "I appeal to anyone who can identify this man to come forward now."

Los Angeles County Supervisor Pete Schabarum also invited donations Friday to supplement the \$10,000 reward offered by the Board of Supervisors here.

An anonymous donor wrote a \$10,000 check on Thursday and one person mailed in a check for

\$10, said Thomas Hibbard, a Schabarum aide. Persons interested in contributing may call (213) 974-4111 for more information, Hibbard said.

Added to a \$5,000 reward that the Arcadia City Council authorized in July, through the We-Tip program, the total amount offered as a reward in the Night Stalker killings is now \$35,010.

In San Francisco, where both major newspapers played the story on their front pages, reports circulated that a car linked to one of the Southern California slayings was seen near Pan's house at some point last weekend.

While official police spokesmen refused to comment, Southern California law enforcement sources contacted by the Star-News discounted the reported sighting of the car, a 1978-80 maroon or brown Pontiac Grand Prix with damage to one fender.

That car was seen after the July 20 shooting death of Chai-narong Khovanath at his home in the Los Angeles neighborhood of Sun Valley.

Arcadia Tribune

Classified ads: 578-6331

A FOOTHILL INTER-CITY NEWSPAPER

Circulation: 446-6133

Editorial: 446-0111

20 PAGES — 2 SECTIONS

SUNDAY, AUGUST 25, 1985

25¢ A COPY

VOL. 55, NO. 68

Police set citizens straight about serial murder suspect

Killer linked to murder in bay area

A killer linked to at least seven slayings in the San Gabriel and San Fernando valleys shot to death an elderly man in San Francisco five days ago, police said Thursday.

"There's absolutely no question in my mind that this man" — the so-called Valley Intruder or Night Stalker — "was in San Francisco," said Chief Cornelius Murphy of the San Francisco Police Department.

After conferring with sheriff's detectives from Los Angeles County, San Francisco police announced Thursday that "physical evidence" has led authorities to link the Los Angeles area murders to the killing of a San Francisco man found shot to death in his bedroom.

Authorities declined to elaborate on why they believe the cases are related.



Photo by Tom La Barbera
Acting Arcadia Police Chief Neal Johnson informs public on serial murder case at Wednesday's meeting.

Murder suspect may be driving different vehicles; second composite drawing more accurate, police say

By BRAD HAUGAARD
Staff Writer

About 120 Arcadians gathered at Baldwin Stocker School Wednesday night for a second briefing on the series of murders that have terrorized the San Gabriel and San Fernando valleys.

Acting Arcadia Police Chief Neal Johnson said it appears the suspect is using various vehicles, so police are not able to alert the public to watch for a certain make of car.

In response to a question, he said the first drawing of the suspect, released by Monterey Park Police, was based on inadequate information. The later sketch, showing a curly haired, leaner man, is believed to be more accurate, he said.

He added that since July 1, Arcadia police have been following up 15 to 25 leads a day, and have been giving reports regarding more distant locations to other law enforcement agencies.

Lt. Richard Honaker said officers are even following up possible leads from out-of-state. Of the eight to 10 of these, he said, none appear to be connected to the local case.

Honaker added that there is physical evidence that police are now studying, but it involves things that cannot be discussed in public.

Lt. Dave Hinig, another speaker at the meeting, said that if the murderer "continues to work this area, it is likely he will be caught by this (Arcadia)

police department."

"If it walks or talks or moves in this town," Hinig said, "it's going to be shaken down."

Johnson said one person was checked out in Tiny's Restaurant on Santa Anita Avenue and Huntington Drive, and then just a short time later as he rode his bicycle down Santa Anita Avenue. One man, he said, has been checked out five times. Police, he added, are also making numerous random stops of single people in cars at night.

Since the beginning of the murders, Johnson said there have been numerous rumors.

Some of them start, he said, because people see the yellow police tape cordoning off an area and assume it is because of a murder. The only murders in Arcadia, he said, are the two that have been reported.

He said there is one persistent — and absolutely false — rumor that five to 10 women have been abducted and raped from Santa Anita Fashion Park.

Officer Don Alcorn said another untrue rumor is that two women had their heads cut off and goat's heads placed on their beds.

Johnson said that since July 1, 26 new neighborhood watch groups have been started in Arcadia.

A third police briefing will be held 7:30 p.m. next Wednesday at Foothills Junior High School at 171 E. Sycamore Ave. in Arcadia.

"They're not talking about that," said Deputy John Broussard, a Los Angeles Sheriff's Department spokesman who said detectives believe their investigation would be compromised if this information became public.

The body of Peter Pan, a 66-year-old accountant, was discovered Sunday in the affluent San Francisco neighborhood near Lake Merced. His home was ransacked and his 64-year-old wife, Barbara, was found unconscious near her husband. Police said the woman had been shot in the head and struck in the face.

The Los Angeles Sheriff's Department is heading up an inter-agency task force that is investigating more than 25 rapes, assaults and murders. In most of the cases, the victims were attacked by a man who got into their homes through an unlocked door or window.

"Our homicide investigators have confirmed the San Francisco Police Department homicide case is related to the Valley Intruder cases currently under investigation here in Los Angeles County," said a spokesman for Sheriff Sherman Block.

Wherever the killer may be, local police said Thursday they don't plan to relax their guard. They advised residents to continue with precautions such as locking all doors and windows at night.

"The absolute worst thing we could do right now is let down our guard," said Monterey Park Police Lt. Joe Santoro, "because all it's going to take is one phone call (from a citizen who reports a suspicious individual) to break this case."

If the killer is in San Francisco, added Arcadia Police Capt. Neal Johnson, "that doesn't necessarily mean he's going to stay there."

Guardian Angels offering new home-watch program

By KATHY BRAIDHILL
Staff Writer

If you're a woman living alone in the San Gabriel Valley and fearful of the Nightstalker — who, police believe, is responsible for a string of brutal assaults and murders — you could get a Guardian Angel to stay at your house and stand guard while you sleep.

Starting Tuesday, between 15 and 20 Guardian Angels will be staying overnight in homes all over the San Gabriel Valley to discourage and confuse the Nightstalker and to protect and

Starting Tuesday, between 15 and 20 Guardian Angels will be staying overnight in homes all over the San Gabriel Valley to discourage and confuse the Nightstalker and to protect and

comfort residents, said Danny Lewis, chapter leader of the West Los Angeles Guardian Angels and Angels tramer.

"Single, elderly women are frightened about spending the night alone because of what has been happening, so we decided to test the program here," said Lewis.

Curtis Sliwa, founder of the Guardian Angels in New York, will explain the house-sitting program Monday night at 7:30 in the multi-purpose room of the Santa Anita Family YMCA, 501 S. Mountain Ave., Monro-

er from a car that had collided with a power pole on Foothill Boulevard.

Under a shower of sparks, a South Pasadena man and an Arcadia woman rescued a driver from a car that had collided with a power pole on Foothill Boulevard.

via, 359-9244.

As a house-sitter, the Guardian Angel stays up between midnight and 6 a.m., while the homeowner sleeps, said Lewis. Neighbors in a four-block area will be told ahead of time where the Angel is staying and the phone number.

If a neighbor suspects a prowler or another disturbance, he or she will call the Angel, who immediately responds to the call after notifying the chapter leader, who calls police, Lewis said.

The program has been a success in New York City, Philadelphia and in the suburbs of Miami, where many senior citi-

zens live, Lewis said.

"It's a psychological comfort to the community because the response is immediate — we're already in the neighborhood. Some people have told us it takes up to half an hour for police to show up," Lewis said.

Lewis said some experienced Angels from New York City will be joining newly trained Guardian Angels as house-sitters in the just-formed San Gabriel Valley Chapter, where more than 40 Angels have been recruited.

The San Gabriel Valley Chapter of the Guardian Angels recently installed a phone line, (818) 446-6678. The chapter leader is Jim Sherwood, Lewis

said.

The purpose of it is to keep potential off-guard and help hood feel more secure.

"For the most part to create a sense of knowing these Angels around and maybe they can sleep easier knowing someone is around immediately," he said.

"This might help fusion in the (Night) mind," said Lewis. "a Guardian Angel still

Please see

Area residents rescue

Kinnahan said he hopes the Exclusive Right to but will not go down.

price the city will sell the land for could go up, but will not go down.

With the new assessment, Kinnahan said, the Store center once planned for east Arcadia.

the land in the now-defunct Target Department process that was used to determine the price for

Kinnahan said this is the same type of appraisal determining what the vacant land is worth alone.

of building. It is not the same, he said, as simply in which the appraiser determines what the land

a "re-use" appraisal, a specific type of assessment. However, Kinnahan said, the city will soon have

square foot. offered to pay \$410,000 for the land, or \$16 a

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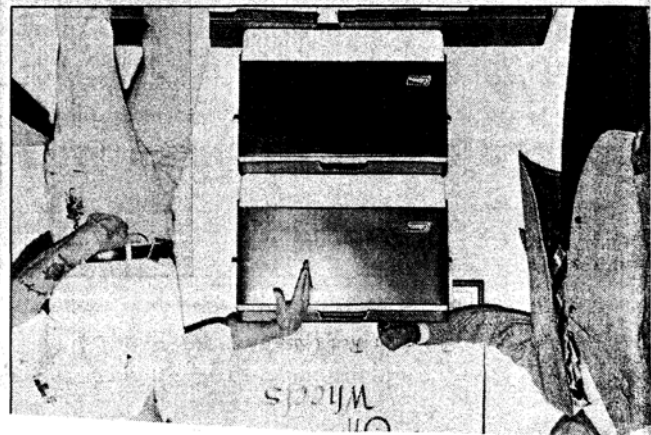
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Photo by Barrett Stinson



THE ORANGE COUNTY

Register

SEPTEMBER 13, 1935

25 CENTS

BRIEFLY CALIFORNIA

Attorney to urge Ramirez to drop public defender

LOS ANGELES — A Texas lawyer asked by the family of Richard Ramirez, suspected in the so-called "night stalker" killings, to check into the case accused Ramirez's public defender Thursday of mishandling the case.

"I'm making sure he gets a fair trial. Then I will drop out," said Manuel Barraza of El Paso, who isn't licensed to practice law in California.

Barraza said that when he returns to Texas he will advise Ramirez's family to retain a private California attorney for Ramirez.

Ramirez, 25, a drifter from El Paso, has been charged with one of 15 serial killings linked to the "night stalker" in the Los Angeles area and San Francisco. He is being held without bail at Los Angeles County Jail.

Deputy Public Defender Allen Adashek, who is assigned to Ramirez's case, couldn't be reached for comment.

T H E O R A N G E C O U N T Y

Register

WEDNESDAY EVENING

SEPTEMBER 11, 1985

25 CENTS

Grisly proof sought in 'stalker' probe

From staff and news-service reports

Eyes gouged out of a "night stalker" slaying victim are among the evidence being sought by law-enforcement investigators, the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department said Tuesday.

Sheriff's Deputy Rick Adams said the two eyes were listed in affidavits related to the "night stalker" investigation and that they were cut out of one of the 15 or more victims attributed to the serial killer.

"The victim's eyes were removed in one of the homicide cases currently under investigation and have been listed in several search warrant affidavits that were served at several locations, including one in El Paso, Texas," Adams said.

In addition, the eyes may have been mailed to the sister of so-called "night stalker" suspect Richard Ramirez in El Paso, according to an affidavit cited Tuesday in newspaper reports.

"One victim's eyes were cut out in these murders," the affidavit reportedly said. "They may have been mailed to the listed addresses."

No eyes were discovered during a search of the home of the sister, Rosa Flores, but more than 300 items were found that Ramirez allegedly stole and hid in the home.

The affidavits are the first official confirmation of mutilation by the "night stalker." News reports earlier said eyes may have been gouged from victims and satanic rituals may have taken place at crime scenes. Investigators have downplayed devil worship as a part of the attacks.

But the affidavit also said investigators were looking for satanic materials such as writings or drawings that Ramirez may have mailed to relatives.

"It's the longest search warrant I've ever seen," El Paso County Court at Law Judge John Fashing reportedly said of the 55-page search warrant, filed in Texas by Los Angeles County Sheriff's Detective Robert Perry.

In addition to the sister's home, the home of Ramirez's father, Julian Ramirez Sr., also was searched last week, court records show.

JUDGE: Gag Order Issued on Stalker Case Comments

Continued from Page 1

treatment, when compared with these proposed X-rays, will help determine the defendant's whereabouts during the period in question."

Under the terms of the gag order, no witnesses, court officers, public officials, law enforcement officers or attorneys can publicly release purported statements from Ramirez or documents concerning the case. They are also precluded from commenting outside of court on the weight or effect of evidence against Ramirez or the identity of prospective witnesses.

Records Sealed

The order also seals court records, which, until Tuesday, contained little information except for a lengthy medical report pertaining to Ramirez's visits to County-USC Medical Center in 1983. The records, obtained from the hospital at the request of the prosecution, primarily concern a two-week hospitalization in September, 1983, in which Ramirez

was treated for an infection to a finger on his right hand.

Ramirez told doctors that he had been bitten on the hand by a man whom he had punched in the mouth. The records also included a report on a subsequent hospital visit that December, in which Ramirez was treated for a cut on his right hand.

The gag order follows Soper's approval Friday, at Adashek's request, of a ban on any attorneys or others from seeing Ramirez without the defender's approval.

Adashek has been publicly criticized by Manuel Barraza, an El Paso attorney who said he was retained by Ramirez's family. Barraza has contended that Adashek is more interested in money and fame through book and movie deals than in proving his client innocent—a charge that Adashek has strongly denied. Barraza has returned to El Paso, after making a series of comments to reporters about Ramirez after jailhouse visits with him.

Judge Imposes Gag Order on Stalker Case Comments

By PAUL FELDMAN, *Times Staff Writer*

A Los Angeles Municipal Court judge on Tuesday imposed a gag order forbidding public comments by lawyers, police and other officials involved in the highly publicized murder case of Night Stalker suspect Richard Ramirez.

The order was issued by Judge Elva R. Soper at the request of Ramirez's attorney, Deputy Public Defender Allen Adashek. At a brief hearing before Soper, in which Ramirez looked on, Deputy Dist. Atty. P. Philip Halpin, who is prosecuting the case, did not protest the order.

Ramirez, 25, who is scheduled to enter pleas Sept. 27, is being held without bail in Los Angeles County Jail on charges of one count of murder and seven other felonies in Los Angeles County. He has also been charged with murder, attempted murder, burglary and robbery by San Francisco authorities.

The El Paso native, a drifter who

has spent much of the last five years in California, is suspected by authorities of having committed as many as 14 slayings and 21 assaults, kidnappings and rapes in a grisly spree that may have begun in June, 1984.

Overriding Adashek's objection, Soper also has granted a request by Halpin that dental X-rays, photos and impressions of Ramirez's teeth be taken by the county medical examiner's office for use as evidence.

In a statement to the judge Friday, Halpin said Ramirez's "teeth are unique in appearance and are believed to have been described by numerous victims and witnesses for the prosecution.

"It is also believed that the defendant was being treated dentally at the time of the commission of these crimes and that X-rays taken during the course of that

Please see JUDGE, Page 3

TUESDAY'S AIR QUALITY

Hourly average pollution, 7 a.m. to 6 p.m.

- Ozone: invisible, irritates and impairs breathing.
- Nitrogen dioxide: brown, impairs breathing.
- Carbon monoxide: invisible, reduces blood's oxygen.

S = Clean air standard. (Blanks indicate missing data).

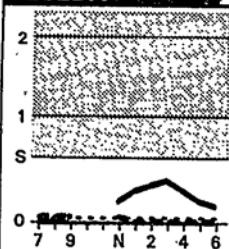
1 = 1st stage episode; air unhealthful for everyone.

2 = 2nd stage episode; air hazardous for everyone.

* Nitrogen dioxide and carbon monoxide not measured.

Source: South Coast Air Quality Management District

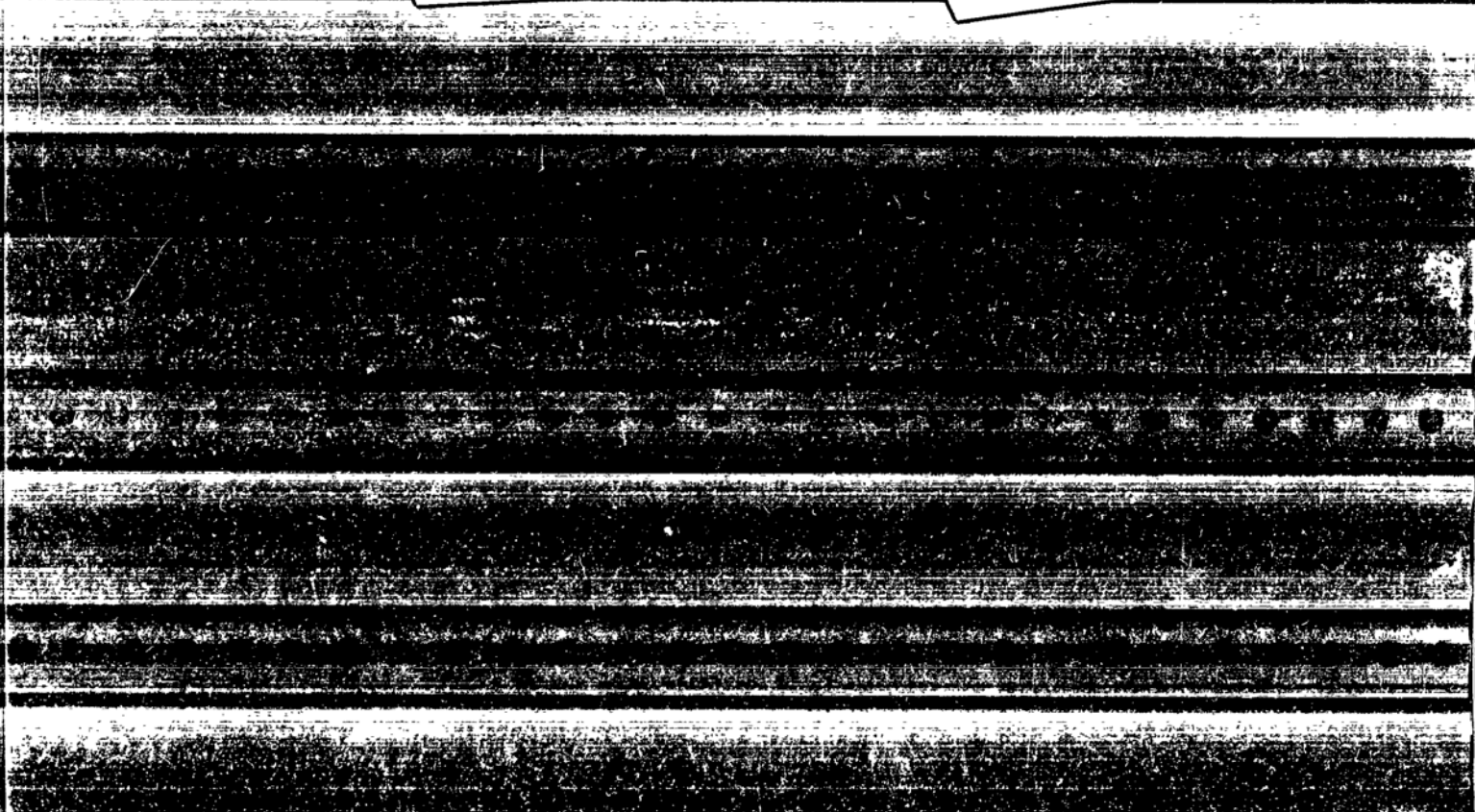
RESEDA



The Orange County Register

Friday, September 13, 1985

Metro



Metro Monitor

BRIEFLY:

'Stalker' shooting victim soon may leave hospital

A fund-raiser by a Mission Viejo pizza parlor has raised about \$4,000 to help pay for the medical and therapy bills for the last victim of the so-called "night stalker."

Lamp Post Pizza, at 25102 Marguerite Parkway, donated all of Thursday's profits for Bill Carns, who is being treated at Mission Community Hospital, according to owner Richard Morese.

Carns, shot three times in the head and neck last month by the so-called "night stalker," is expected to be discharged from hospital care in about a week, a Mission Community Hospital spokeswoman said Thursday.

Carns, a 29-year-old Mission Viejo man, nearly is ready to be transferred to a rehabilitation program, said spokeswoman Jan Walker. She said she could not specify what type of rehabilitation he will require as the family has not yet chosen among several under consideration.

The fund-raiser began at 11 a.m. and was "wall-to-wall" for most of the day until closing time at 10 p.m., Morese said.

Carns' girlfriend, who was sexually assaulted in the attack, and parents were among those visited the restaurant Thursday, along with many workers from Burroughs, where both Carns and his girlfriend worked.

Burroughs employees raised an additional \$781.73 for Carns by leaving a jar at the restaurant and asking people to contribute.

Other contributions included \$150 from a baseball team sponsored by Panel-Air Corp. in Costa Mesa, and \$15 from a Whittier woman.

Carns was rushed to the hospital Aug. 25 in critical condition. He

WEATHER

Weather: Showers possible
Partly cloudy today through Sunday,
with a 60 percent chance of showers this
morning. Highs expected in the 74-82
range. Lows 58-64.
— Full report, Page A-2

STAR-NEWS

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PASADENA, CALIFORNIA, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 1985

68 charges filed against Stalker suspect

By SELWYN EIBER
Staff Writer

Night Stalker defendant Richard Ramirez was charged Friday with a total of 68 felony counts — including 14 murders — that are based on 20 separate incidents involving 28 victims in Los Angeles County.

The charges, made public by District Attorney Ira Reiner during a mid-morning press conference, include three lewd acts on children ages 6, 8 and 16. The 6-year-old is from Arcadia, the 8-year-old from Eagle Rock and the 16-year-old from Sierra Madre. All are girls.

Ramirez, a 25-year-old transient born in El Paso, Texas, also was charged with five attempted murders, 19 burglaries, six robberies, seven rapes, five acts of oral copulation, seven acts of sodomy and two kidnappings.

The dates of the crimes listed on the complaint span from an Eagle Rock area murder that occurred on either June 27 or 28, 1984, to a Diamond Bar murder on Aug. 8, 1985.

The new charges include the eight already filed on Sept. 3. The eight relate to two incidents: the May 14 attack in Monterey Park when 66-year-old William Doi was shot, and the May 9 burglary and robbery of 85-year-old Clara Hadsall of Monrovia.

San Francisco authorities also have charged Ramirez with the Aug. 17 murder of 66-year-old accountant Peter Pan.

When asked if further charges later would be filed by his office, Reiner said, "None is anticipated."

"We have completed our assessment of the evidence," he added. "This is the case as we expect it will go to preliminary hearing and a trial."

Still, he said it is not impossible that more charges could be

'We have completed our assessment of the evidence. This is the case as we expect it will go to preliminary hearing and a trial.'

— Ira Reiner
District Attorney

filed as various police agencies search their files of unsolved cases.

The death penalty will be sought on all murders since special circumstances are involved, Reiner said.

Ramirez was arrested Aug. 31, after he was chased and beaten in East Los Angeles after allegedly trying to steal a car. He is being held without bail in county jail.

Appearing Friday afternoon in downtown Los Angeles Municipal Court, Ramirez's defense attorney Allen Adashek did not enter a plea on the charges. Judge Elva Soper set a new plea date of Oct. 17.

Ramirez was in the court building, but did not appear in the courtroom. Soper said he was in a lockup room "for his benefit" where he could view the proceedings.

Loud shrieks could be heard during the few minutes the Ramirez case was heard. Adashek would not say after the proceedings whether Ramirez was the one screaming.

A county marshall in the courtroom said it could have

Please see STALKER,
Page A-5

'Stalker' strikes again

Mission Viejo, Calif (AP)—A man dubbed the "night stalker" who is blamed for 14 slayings shot a man and sexually attacked a woman yesterday, the 34th and 35th attacks attributed to the serial killer, police said.

"We do believe it is the work of the 'night stalker,'" said Orange County Sheriff's Lt. Richard Olson.

A woman called at 2:40 a.m. to say her boy friend had been shot by a man in their Mission Viejo home, 55

miles southeast of Los Angeles, Olson said.

The man was shot in the head and the woman was sexually attacked, said Olson.

The shooting victim, William Carns, 29, was in extremely critical condition after surgery at Mission Community Hospital, according to a nursing supervisor. Olson said the man is not expected to live.

SECOND FRONT PAGE

Tracking the 'Stalker'

Calif. manhunt intensifies; police carefully guard clues

By Eric Brazil
USA TODAY

LOS ANGELES — Officials from one end of California to the other Monday closely guarded details of attacks by the "Night Stalker" — heightening the mystery surrounding the gap-toothed intruder.

Police in Los Angeles, San Francisco and Orange County

theorized that the less the Stalker knows about the manhunt, the better.

"We're just not going to release any information relating to the evidence," said Los Angeles County Sheriff's Sgt. Michael Kenyon.

Several law enforcement agencies refused comment on reports the Stalker tends to attack people who live in tidy yel-

low houses near freeways. Others dismissed the reports as media fabrications.

Data under wraps:

■ Results of ballistics tests, the exact way he kills his victims, messages scrawled on the walls of some of the victims' homes and one other unspecified "trademark."

■ A psychological profile of the Stalker prepared by the

FBI and the L.A. task force's bulletin to dentists describing him as missing 12 of 32 teeth.

The Stalker officially is described as a slender, 6-footer with gapped, discolored teeth.

His latest attack came Sunday in the Orange County community of Mission Viejo. Bill Carns, 29, is near death after being shot in the head Sunday. His girlfriend was raped.

The Stalker is believed to have attacked at least 35 people and killed 14 during a five-month reign of terror. Most occurred in Los Angeles.

The Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department heads a task force hunting for the killer. Orange County and San Francisco — where one attack occurred — are conducting separate investigations.

Police link 'night stalker' to 14 deaths

LOS ANGELES (AP) — A killer dubbed the "night stalker" who terrorizes suburban homes at night has been linked to 14 murders from Los Angeles to San Francisco, but officials fear the search for the man may have been hampered by the release of too much information.

Dental records that may be those of the gap-toothed killer have been sent to more than 3,000 dentists and a reward has grown to \$35,000. Police would not comment yesterday on reports that the killer scrawled messages on the walls of some victims' homes.

"We have definitely tied 14 murders to this individual and possibly as many as 33 individual cases in L.A. County and the case in San Francisco," Los Angeles County Sheriff Sherman Block said at a news conference late Friday.

Previously, police had blamed the attacker for seven murders and 27 attacks, including rapes, beatings and kidnappings, most in the San Fernando and San Gabriel valley areas of Southern California. The first assault was reported Feb. 8 and the first slaying March 17.

Block criticized San Francisco Mayor Dianne Feinstein for telling reporters that last weekend's murder of San Francisco resident Peter Pan, 66, and the attempted murder of his wife, Barbara, 64, had been linked to the killer through ballistics tests.

Ms. Feinstein disclosed the results of ballistics tests Friday as she announced that she was adding \$10,000 to a reward fund for information leading to the capture of the attacker.

"I'm telling you that information [released to the media] has significantly jeopardized the investigation that is under way," Block said.

Investigators are worried that the killer may change his methods because of the details that have been released.

Although he criticized release of the dental information as the most damaging, Block explained that the records were obtained from a dentist whose card was found in a car believed stolen by the killer.

The dentist said he had treated a man matching the description, but the man had paid cash and given a phony name and address, the sheriff said. Survivors have described the killer as having curly black hair and badly stained and gapped teeth.

Prosecution makes mold of Ramirez's teeth

By Andy Furillo
Herald staff writer

THE NIGHT STALKER CASE

Investigators have taken impressions of Richard Ramirez's teeth to help identify the Night Stalker suspect and aid detectives in tracing the movements of the alleged serial killer in the months leading up to his arrest.

Many witnesses and victims who caught glimpses of the Night Stalker told investigators that his most noticeable characteristic was his decaying teeth.

The impressions to make casts of Ramirez's teeth were taken Friday by Dr. Gerald Vale, chief of forensic dentistry for the Los Angeles County coroner's office.

Also gathered during the dental examinations were X-rays and "photographs of particular positions of the defendant's teeth," according to a court order that enabled investigators to gather the castings.

In a statement in support of the court order, Deputy District Attorney P. Philip Halpin said that Ramirez's teeth "are unique in appearance and are believed to have been described by numerous victims and witnesses for the prosecution."

Halpin said "it is also believed that

(Ramirez) was being treated dentally at the time of the commission of the crimes and that X-rays taken during the course of that treatment, when compared with these proposed X-rays, will help determine the defendant's whereabouts during the period in question."

Before Ramirez's Aug. 31 arrest in East Los Angeles, investigators had obtained records from a dentist who treated a man matching the description of the suspected Night Stalker.

Detectives statewide have linked at least 15 murders thus far in the Night Stalker investigation. Ramirez, a 25-year-old drifter from El Paso, Texas, has been formally charged with two: the May 14 murder of William Doi, 65, of Monterey Park, and the Aug. 17 slaying of Peter Pan, 66, in San Francisco.

In support of the court order, which was signed Friday by Municipal Court Judge

Elva R. Soper, Halpin quoted a 1975 court case that referred to tooth molds which "would be used to compare with the teeth marks on the murder victims' bodies."

But Los Angeles sheriff's spokesman Lt. Dick Walls, when asked if the killer had bitten his victims, said, "There are no bite marks on any victims."

Halpin declined to comment further.

Vale, the dentist who prepared the molds for investigators, said the process involves placing inside the defendant's mouth an impression tray filled with a creamy material known as alginate.

The impression, taken separately for each jaw, hardens into a rubber-like mold, and is removed from the mouth. The mold is filled with a plaster-like material which dries and forms a positive replica of the teeth, Vale said.

"It's the same type of procedure done routinely in dental offices all the time," Vale said. "An orthodontist does it if he's making a study cast, and dentists use it to make a partial denture."

Meanwhile, deputy public defender Allen R. Adashek obtained two court orders Friday to prevent anybody from visiting Ramirez in County Jail without the approval of the public defender's office.

One of the orders, apparently directed

specifically at El Paso lawyer Manuel Barraza, who engaged in a public debate with Adashek last week over the public defender's handling of the case, barred any attorney from visiting Ramirez in jail without having Adashek present.

Adashek last week criticized Barraza, who was hired by Ramirez's family to represent their interests in the case, for making public statements about the Night Stalker suspect's mood after visiting the suspected serial killer.

The other court order prohibited Ramirez from receiving any visitors at all without the approval of Adashek or other "duly authorized employees of the public defender's office."

Barraza, who last week accused Adashek of seeking personal financial gain in the Night Stalker case, said yesterday that Ramirez's sister had to go through the public defender's office before she could visit her brother over the weekend.

"She found it objectionable," Barraza said.

Adashek also sought and obtained a court order to keep Ramirez in solitary confinement in order to keep him away from the general population at County Jail.

Adashek was unavailable for comment yesterday.

Metro Monitor

BRIEFLY:

Mission Viejo 'night stalker' victim to enter new facility

Bill Carns, the Mission Viejo man shot Aug. 25 by the so-called "night stalker," was released Tuesday in fair condition from Mission Community Hospital.

Nursing Supervisor Denise Imbault said Carns, 29, has been moved to another Orange County health facility for rehabilitation and further treatment. At the request of a member of Carns' family, "who has asked that it be kept private," she refused to name the institution.

Carns, a North Dakota computer engineer who had moved to Mission Viejo early this year, was shot three times in the head by an intruder who crept into his home shortly after midnight. His injuries rendered him partly paralyzed, doctors have said.

No charges have been filed in the case by Orange County authorities. However, police have linked a car believed used during the attack on Carns and his girlfriend — who was sexually assaulted — to Richard Ramirez, 25, the prime suspect in the "night stalker" serial slayings.

Fingerprints found in the orange Toyota station wagon have been matched with those of Ramirez, who was arrested on Labor Day weekend in East Los Angeles.

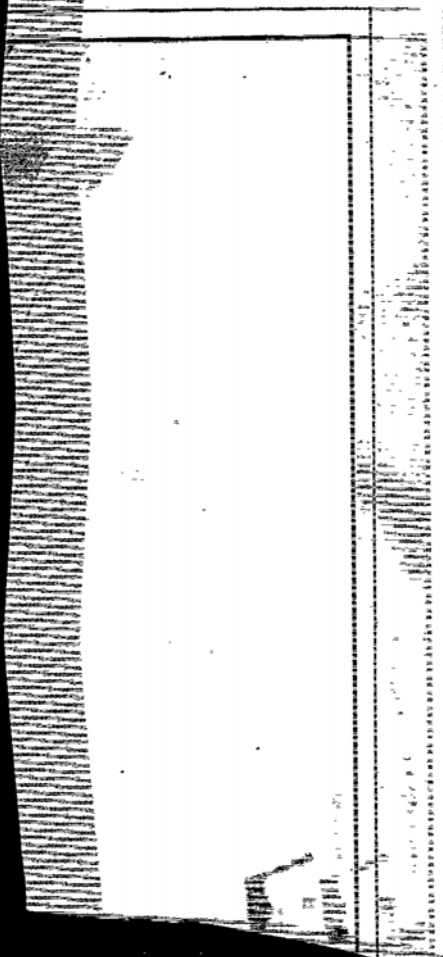
Leon

Metro

MORE
LOCAL
NEWS
C4-B

rough urban encroachment has
flowed up most of the citrus groves

Please see FLIES/B7



Weather: Possible rain

Mostly cloudy today with a 20 percent chance of showers, then clearing tonight. Cooler with highs in the lower 70s, with lows in the 50s.

— Full report, Page A-2

STAR-NEWS

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PASADENA, CALIFORNIA, WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 1985

Stalker: Ramirez may have brother living in L.A.

Continued from Page A-1

Street address Tuesday, but neighbors told him they heard that Julio Ramirez was related to the defendant.

Bonnie Trejo, a resident in the neighborhood, said she heard the Brannick Street residence was where Ramirez's brother lived.

Ramirez does have a brother who goes by the name of Julian Ramirez, J. Ramirez, 25.

With Soper's order, all court documents now are sealed. Witnesses, attorneys, police and other public employees now are barred from releasing any information or discussing the case publicly,

except in court.

News reporters are not bound by the order and cannot be barred from reporting any information they learn.

"This order shall be enforced until this matter (Ramirez's trial) has been disposed of or until further action of the court," Soper wrote at the conclusion of her four-page written order.

Earlier in the day, reporters had examined medical records that prosecutors had subpoenaed from Los Angeles County-USC Medical Center. According to wire services, there were 100 pages of documents, including reports from Ramirez's visit to the county hospital two years ago.

Ramirez had sought treatment for a hand wound, telling doctors he punched a man in the mouth and was then bitten, wire services reported.

Monday, reporters had inspected subpoenas showing that authorities ordered X-rays and molds made of Ramirez's teeth. Ramirez is described as having extremely bad teeth.

Witnesses and victims in many of the Night Stalker assaults have described a man with rotting and missing teeth. Earlier this summer, authorities learned that the man they believed to be the Night Stalker had gone to a Los Angeles dentist, seeking treatment under a false name.

Although one subpoena cited a court case in which teeth molds were used to compare with marks on a murder victim's body, Los Angeles County Sheriff's spokesmen told reporters Monday that none of the Night Stalker victims had bite marks.

Court files usually are open to the public and press, in keeping with constitutional guarantees that a defendant is entitled to an open trial and that citizens have a right to know about the workings of the courts and other branches of government.

Gag orders often are sought and granted in connection with unusually controversial cases when an attorney or judge feels that publicity is excessive.

Judge issues gag order in Night Stalker case

By **BRANDON BAILEY**
Staff Writer

Witnesses, attorneys and other officials are barred from making public statements or releasing documents relating to the trial of Night Stalker suspect Richard Ramirez under a gag order issued Tuesday by a Los Angeles judge.

The order apparently was requested by defense attorney Allen Adashek, with the concurrence of prosecutor P. Philip Halpin, both of whom have expressed concern over news coverage of the case.

Municipal Judge Elva Soper issued the order late Tuesday afternoon, after news reporters had examined subpoenas and court files relating to Ramirez's medical and dental records. The reporters had the permission of

court officials to see those documents.

Before the records were sealed, they were viewed by City News Service reporter Tim Harrell and two other journalists.

Hospital records from County-USC Medical Center that were viewed by Harrell indicated Ramirez listed a 1249 S. Brannick St. address in East Los Angeles as his residence in 1983 when he was treated for a hand injury. In the records, Julio Ramirez was identified as his brother and the closest relative for notification in case of an emergency.

No one was home during Harrell's visit to the Brannick

Please see **STALKER**,
Page A-3

Night Stalker attack shatters a family forever

The empty Sun Valley house smelled of fresh paint; the new carpet softened under my reluctant footsteps. Fingerprint dust lingered around the handle of the sliding glass door in the living room.

A colorful, trolley-shaped light switch by the bathroom door read, "Jolly Trolley." The lions, tigers and bears grinned down from the curtains into the bare bedroom where 8-year-old Kevin had played and slept with security.

On the kitchen counter lay an old Valentine that had been found in the rear of a cabinet. "Happy Valentine's Day, Mom, Dad," Kevin had printed for himself and his 3-year-old sister, Kimberly. "So wipe your sadness away. Always be happy."

But the family will not always be happy. It will never be a whole family again.

Shortly before dawn on July 21, the Night Stalker shot Kevin's dad, Chainarong Kovananth, in the head as he slept. He tied Sonkid Kovananth's hands behind her back and raped her



**JANE
ESTES**

in the bed beside her dead husband.

Kevin awoke at the shots, screaming with terror. The Stalker hit him repeatedly in the face with the barrel of his gun, leaving the child's face swollen and blue for weeks.

Kimberly was lucky. She slept through the nightmare.

So much has been and will be written about the Night Stalker. But we hear little about the victims whose lives were devastated.

Wherever I sought information about survivors, vacant homes were mute testimony to families wounded forever by the violent invasion of a stranger, a madman, into their sleep, their homes, their lives. In Monterey

Park, Rosemead and Sun Valley, three homes of victims were for sale. In Diamond Bar, the house was for rent. Another sign of the terror that washed over these homes was the taciturn and stubbornly anonymous neighbors, stunned and subdued by violence on their quiet streets.

When I visited the Kovananth home, real estate agent Greg Westmoreland was holding an open house. He is a close friend of the family's, the agent who sold the Kovananth's their house when they were happy and hopeful. Now he was selling it when they were traumatized and shattered.

Westmoreland said Sonkid did not want to talk to the press and had been encouraged not to by police and her attorney. But he related with distress his friend's description of her night of terror.

For an hour and a half, the Stalker roamed his victims' house. Sonkid sat tied and trembling and indelibly injured after the attack while the intruder casually got a glass of orange juice from the refrigerator, washed his face

in the bathroom and used a family towel. She was afraid to run because her son whimpered nearby and her daughter slept. The attacker took Sonkid by the arm and out into the dawn light to see what he might want to take from the garage at the front of the house.

Sonkid's description of her attacker produced the widely published composite drawing, and the hand prints left on the wall and the juice glass gave police vital breaks.

Sonkid is living with a sister and getting counseling at her Buddhist temple, Westmoreland said. She laughed for the first time recently. "She has states of melancholy," Westmoreland said. "Kevin was very quiet for a long time."

Westmoreland and his wife, Hataya, who is Chinese, met the Kovananth's when they came to the United States from Thailand 11 years ago. "They came to this country with very little," Westmoreland said. "He worked in a parking garage, and she worked as a waitress. But they saved and were able

to buy this house. When they started importing jewelry from Thailand and selling it, they began doing a lot better."

But the Stalker took with him \$40,000 in jewelry that Sonkid had temporarily taken out of their safety deposit box. There was no insurance to cover the jewelry while it was in the house, so she will get only \$500 for it.

In the days following the attack, Sonkid gave all her furniture to a fledgling temple. A Buddhist priest blessed the home and the bed to release her husband's soul to heaven. As a Buddhist, she will never remarry. And what now for Sonkid, the gentle Chinese woman who worked hard with her husband for a piece of the American dream?

Her friend Westmoreland replied, "Who knows?"

Jane Estes is a Star-News staff writer.

Star-News Editor Chuck Cherriss' column will return Thursday.

Bullets Fired Into Heads but Couple Survive

By THOMAS OMESTAD
and MARC IGLER
Times Staff Writers

LA Times
8-7-85
(W40)

An intruder awakened a Northridge man and his wife and shot them in the head early Tuesday morning, but the wounded man chased the gunman from his house and then drove his wife and 4-year-old daughter to a hospital.

Christopher Petersen, 38, a warehouse supervisor, was reported in good condition at Northridge Hospital Medical Center with wounds in his head and neck. His wife, Virginia, 27, a Postal Service clerk, was reported in stable condition with a face wound.

Los Angeles Police Department spokesmen said officers were looking into the possibility that the shootings were connected to a string of similar predawn attacks that have occurred in homes in Glendale and the San Gabriel and San Fernando valleys since March.

"I don't know if they're connected right now," said Lt. Ron Lewis, head of Los Angeles Police Department homicide detectives.

"It's just too early," he said. "In order to determine any connection, we have to sit down and take a look at all cases," he said.

Four Killed

The series of attacks includes four people killed and four women beaten or raped in June and July in the San Gabriel Valley. Monterey Park Police Chief Jon Elder said last month that while "we can't specifically connect the crimes . . . at this point, we believe we're looking for one suspect" in those cases.

Monterey Park Police Lt. Joe Santoro told a meeting of worried residents at that time that "this is not something that is happening only in Monterey Park," adding that "there are several hundred police officers working on the case." He did not elaborate.

Los Angeles police have refused to discuss whether they are taking part in the

Please see INTRUDER, Page 6

INTRUDER

Continued from Page 1

investigation.

The San Gabriel Valley slayings included two women in Arcadia, both of whom were found with slashed throats, and a man and a woman in Monterey Park, who were bludgeoned to death.

A Glendale couple were shot to death. A Thai immigrant was shot to death in his sleep and his wife raped at their home in Sun Valley.

All the crimes were attributed to an intruder who entered the house late at night.

Monterey Park police were hunting a suspect about 25 to 30 years old, 160 pounds, with curly brown hair, about 6 feet tall.

The Petersens could only describe their assailant to police as a man about 6 feet tall.

Door Possibly Unlocked

The intruder entered their house in the 18200 block of Acre Street about 2:30 a.m. through the back door, which may have been unlocked, said Detective Lou Bobbitt.

Virginia Petersen was awakened by a man standing over her bed holding a pistol, police said. She screamed and the man fired a single shot at close range.

The noise awakened Christopher Petersen, and the gunman shot him in the head.

"She screamed, 'Who are you? What do you want?' Then bang," said Bill Petersen, father of the wounded man, who spoke to him in the hospital. "My son raised up in bed, and the guy shot him as he turned his head to look at his wife. That probably saved his life."

The father said a bullet struck Virginia Petersen on the side of her nose and passed through her head near her eye. Christopher Petersen was shot in the temple but the bullet coursed downward and lodged in his neck. Neither suffered brain damage, police said.

Fired Again

Christopher Petersen jumped out of bed, and the gunman fired at him again and missed. Petersen chased him through a hallway and the living room, his father said. The gunman fired and missed again.

Christopher Petersen then threw himself to the floor in front of his daughter's bedroom door. He was pretending he had been hit again, so he could attack the intruder if the gunman tried to enter the girl's room, his father said.

The couple's daughter heard the commotion but did not leave her room until the intruder had fled, police said. She was not harmed.

Despite his wounds, Christopher Petersen placed his wounded wife in the back of the couple's camper-equipped pickup truck and put his child, wrapped in a bedsheet, in the front seat.

Detectives called burglary a probable motive in the shootings, but did not rule out other motives. They said there were no signs that the house, in a quiet residential neighborhood, had been ransacked or any items had been stolen.

RAPE: Attack Not Believed Linked to 'Valley Intruder'

Continued from Page 1

are seeking he dubbed the "Valley Intruder." Others in the media searching for an appropriate moniker have labeled the wanted man the "Valley Invader," "Walk-in Killer" and "Night Stalker."

Whatever his label, the assailant gains entry through open windows and unlocked doors to attack sleeping victims. Nearly all of the residences where attacks have occurred were poorly lighted and unfenced.

Investigators from the Sheriff's Department and the Los Angeles, Arcadia, Glendale, Monrovia and Monterey Park police departments are participating in a manhunt that Block described as "far more complex" than that mounted in the Hillside Strangler murders of the late 1970s. Block said the six-agency task force is "growing every day" and probably now numbers more than 50 detectives.

The case thus far has baffled investigators, who invariably depend on a killer's *modus operandi*—a consistent pattern of behavior—to discover clues and make arrests. The pattern often involves a killer's preference for a particular type of weapon or victim.

"That's why this case is so mind-boggling," Block said. "There's no consistency at all."

Even in those cases where vic-

tims have been shot, a different gun apparently has been used, the sheriff noted.

The essential links between each episode have been the assailant's method of entry and the physical description offered by survivors and witnesses. The intruder has been described and depicted in a composite drawing as a thin man between 6 feet and 6 feet 2 inches tall and between 25 and 30 years of age. He has discolored front teeth that are widely gapped and curly brown hair.

In Sunday's incident, the elderly woman was attacked at about 5:30 a.m. in her one-story house. She did not get a good look at her assailant because he was wearing a mask, Block said. However, she described the man as considerably shorter than the individual wanted in the other crimes, he said.

The woman's description of his height—and the fact that the attacker did not exhibit a weapon, wore a mask and did not beat her—led investigators to discount the possibility that the crime was committed by the same person being sought by the task force, Block said.

Latest Attack Is ^{LA TIMES 8-13-85} Not Believed Tied to 'Valley Intruder'

By DAVID FREED, Times Staff Writer

The rape of an 84-year-old San Gabriel woman early Sunday may not have been the work of a late-night intruder being sought by a police task force in a county-wide series of slayings and assaults, authorities believe.

Despite initial speculation that the intruder had struck again, there were few similarities between Sunday's incident and earlier attacks in which people have been shot, stabbed, raped and bludgeoned in their homes, Los Angeles County Sheriff Sherman Block said Monday.

The elderly woman's description of her assailant, as well as methods the attacker used, "lead us to believe that it may not, and probably is not, related" to the six or more murders and as many as 13 other non-fatal assaults linked to one person, the sheriff said.

Many of the incidents—dating back to February—have taken place in the San Gabriel and San Fernando valleys, leading Block to suggest Monday that the man they

Please see RAPE, Page 3

PASADENA, CALIFORNIA, SUNDAY, JULY 28, 1985

Fear of violence still lingers

Attack wave in valley left 5 dead, 4 hurt

By LAURA NICHOLSON
Staff Writer

During the past three months five people have died and four others have been attacked in a path of violence that has stretched from Monterey Park to Monrovia.

All but one of the victims were women; they all were physically assaulted, and two women had their throats slashed. The four female

murder victims were brutally beaten. Authorities have said that similarities exist among the cases and that one person could be responsible, but they have not committed themselves to saying that all of the cases are linked.

It started on May 14 when William Doi was shot and killed in his Monterey Park home.

The 65-year-old man apparently confronted a burglar who entered his home in the early morning hours.

Doi was able to dial the 911 emergency number, but died before police could arrive. His 63-year-old wife, though sexually assaulted, probably

Please see **ATTACKS**,
Page A-6

Wave of violence

■ May 14 — William Doi, 65, was shot and killed in his Monterey Park home, his 63-year-old wife was sexually assaulted.

■ June 1 — Mable Bell, 63, and her sister Florence Lang, 81, were found beaten in their Monrovia home. Bell died in a hospital July 15.

■ June 28 — Patty Elaine Higgins, 32, was slain in her home in Arcadia.

■ July 2 — Mary Louise Cannon, 75, was slain in Arcadia.

■ July 5 — a 16-year-old girl was found beaten in Sierra Madre.

■ July 7 — Joyce Nelson, 60, was slain in Monterey Park.

■ July 7 — 65-year-old woman was raped in Monterey Park.

Residents told little about recent assaults

By LAURA NICHOLSON
Staff Writer

During the past several weeks, the need for home security has been driven into West San Gabriel Valley residents.

They have heard repeated police warnings to bar their doors and lock their windows. In record numbers they have asked police for home security checks.

They have seen the red berets of the Guardian Angels on their normally placid streets, and some have bought handguns, rifles and shotguns to protect their homes.

But at the same time they know little of what has happened in their otherwise peaceful cities and are calling for information from local police departments.

The clamor comes after nine people, most of them elderly single women, were brutally attacked or murdered in their homes in the past 14 weeks.

The attacks, in Arcadia, Monrovia, Monterey Park and Sierra Madre,

Please see **INFORMATION**,
Page A-6

Attacks: Residents, officials haunted by recent violence

Continued from Page A-1

survived because of Doi's dying effort, Lt. Joe Santoro told one group that assembled in Monterey Park earlier this month.

Doi's death went relatively unnoticed in the San Gabriel Valley, and no connection was made when two elderly women were found beaten in their Monrovia home June 1.

A gardener had noticed an open door and found Mable Bell and Florence Lang lying battered in two bedrooms of their home on North Alta Vista Avenue.

Authorities believed the elderly women may have been there for as long as two days. Their home had been ransacked.

After a six-week fight for life, 83-year-old Bell died July 15. Her 81-year-old sister still clings to life in a local hospital.

When the sisters were found, the attack seemed like the lone act of a solitary burglar. All that changed the week of July Fourth.

During that week two women died, and attention began to focus on the possibility that one killer was responsible for the deaths.

The temperature hit 95 degrees June 28, the start of a heat wave that would send the mercury soaring as high as 107 in the next five days. People left their windows open at night to seek relief from the day's heat.

Sometime around midnight on June 28, Patty Elaine Higgins was slain in her home in Arcadia where she lived alone.

The attacker may have entered through a back door that was found ajar or climbed through an open window. The home was so old it would not have been hard to break in, said Lt. Richard Honaker of Arcadia.

The bloody, partially clothed body of the 32-year-old schoolteacher was found in the bathroom. She had been brutally beaten. An autopsy later showed that her throat was slashed.

The home was in disarray, and authorities were not certain what might have been taken.

Mary Louise Cannon's home stood along a

quiet residential block of Haven Avenue in Arcadia.

Temperatures were soaring above 100 degrees when authorities received word of an apparent burglary of Cannon's home.

When the police arrived to investigate, they found Cannon's body lifeless in the bedroom.

The 75-year-old woman, who also lived alone, had been badly beaten, but an autopsy showed that she died of a lacerated throat.

A spokesman for the sheriff's department told reporters the woman's home had been ransacked, but it was not clear what was stolen.

Detectives believed the murderer had climbed in through a window, where a screen had been removed.

A neighbor had offered to put blocks on Cannon's windows only a few days before, but she had turned down the offer.

"There's a lot of time," she told the neighbor.

Only three days later, the community was shocked to learn that a 16-year-old girl had been beaten and nearly killed in Sierra Madre.

The girl apparently arrived at her home on Arno Drive in the late evening on Friday, July 5. At 5:45 a.m. she was found severely beaten in her home and taken to a local hospital, where she remained for more than a week.

Police said the teen-ager's youth and good health pulled her through.

Less than 30 hours later, on July 7, police officers in Monterey Park reporting finding the body of yet another murder victim, 60-year-old Joyce Nelson.

Like Cannon and Higgins, Nelson lived alone.

Santoro suggested that Nelson had fallen asleep watching television, then was confronted by the killer about 3 a.m. Her body had been battered, and an autopsy determined that she had died from blows to the head and shoulders.

Within hours a 65-year-old woman became the fourth assault victim in her house only a half mile from Nelson's. Authorities said the woman had been raped but released no other information about the assault.

Information: Neighbors told little about wave of assaults

Continued from Page A-1

have raised a dilemma for law enforcement officials who are being pressured to give people information while finding the person or people responsible for the attacks.

When officers started noticing similarities in the recent murders and assaults they called on the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department for help, said acting Police Chief Neal Johnson of Arcadia. The sheriff's department is coordinating the investigation and acts as the official source of information.

This cuts down the possibility that erroneous information will be released, he said.

But Sgt. Frank Salerno of the sheriff's department said the homicide division doesn't want to release any more information — detectives don't want to jeopardize their investigation.

At the department's request, autopsy reports that would have detailed the injuries suffered by four female murder victims were not released publicly. Only the cause of death was announced.

The extent of the victims' injuries, the type of weapon that could have caused the injuries and the question of whether the women were sexually assaulted have not been made public. Authorities have said they believe the women were not sexually assaulted.

Salerno also would not say if the victims were bound, gagged or in any other way restrained, but ruled out the possibility that they were tortured.

In some cases, facts that are readily available in one case are not available in another.

Though authorities theorized that an open window served as an entryway for the burglar in some cases, in others they have chosen not to release any information about how the attacker operated.

How an assailant entered the home of a 16-year-old girl who was beaten in Sierra Madre on July 5 is not known.

*'We check out everything.
We check out every lead.
We'll respond on every call.'*

— Neal Johnson
Arcadia acting police chief

Just because residents don't see or hear any specifics of what police are doing, doesn't mean nothing is happening, said Lt. Robert Page of the Monrovia Police Department.

Investigators are in daily contact with other police departments and the sheriff's department, sharing information and making sure that efforts aren't duplicated.

It's a job that is involving hundreds of officers and hundreds of leads.

"We check out everything. We check out every lead. We'll respond on every call," Johnson said.

All night residential burglaries and sexual attacks are being looked at especially carefully for clues that might help police solve these cases, Page said.

In addition, more police officers are on the streets, on overtime or working revised schedules.

In Arcadia, 40 reserve officers have been pressed into service, and five patrol officers have been moved to the crime prevention unit to answer the added calls for assistance.

"There's a lot of hours being put in," Johnson said.

There have been no new reports of violence since the body of 60-year-old Joyce Nelson was found in her Monterey Park home July 7, but officials say new leads constantly are being followed.

Salerno concedes each day that passes makes it harder to find the killer but added that, "in this case we think there's a good chance of catching someone."

Diamond Bar Slaying May Be Latest in Series

By DAVID FREED
and CAROL McGRAW,
Times Staff Writers

A Diamond Bar man was shot to death and his wife assaulted in their bedroom early Thursday, apparently the latest victims in a countywide series of slayings that have sparked one of the largest law enforcement mobilizations since the infamous Hillside Strangler case in the late 1970s.

Los Angeles County Sheriff Sherman Block said investigators from six area police agencies believe they have linked at least six or seven killings since May to the same person—a curly haired man with discolored teeth who sneaks through unlocked windows and doors before dawn to attack his victims as they sleep.

Block said the slayings are among about 25 random assaults, including 12 or 13 killings, that may have been committed this year by the one man.

'A Killer Out There'

"There's definitely a killer out there," Block said at a press conference in his office. "Six or seven cases appear to be pretty clearly the work of the same individual. . . . Whether we're talking about a serial killer beyond the half-dozen or so, we don't know."

The series of slayings, in which victims have been shot, stabbed and bludgeoned, is being investigated by a task force of about 25 detectives, according to acting Arcadia Police Chief Neal Johnson. Arcadia is participating in the effort, along with the Sheriff's Department and the Los Angeles, Glendale, Monrovia and Monterey Park police departments, Block said.

Similar killings have occurred in each city in recent months. In some cases, houses have been burglarized; in others, women have been raped. The attacks, apparently have been random.

Each department, Block said, has beefed up its street patrols because of the killings.

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KILLER: Latest Victim in Countywide Series

Continued from Page 1

Authorities identified the latest victims as Elyas Abowath, 35, who was fatally shot, and his wife, Sakina, 28, who was beaten. She was treated at a hospital and released. Their two sons, ages 3 years and 3 months, were not harmed.

Block said the couple were attacked about 4 a.m. as they slept in their house on a cul-de-sac in a quiet neighborhood of \$150,000 homes about 30 miles east of downtown Los Angeles. Their assailant apparently entered through an open back or side window.

Poorly Lighted, Unfenced

The house, on Pinehill Lane, was poorly lighted and unfenced, Block said. The couple had lived there for about seven years.

Abowath, who worked in the computer industry, was shot in the head apparently shortly after the killer entered the house. His wife was then assaulted. The slayer "did some ransacking" of the house before leaving, Block said.

Frightened neighbors huddled Thursday morning on the sidewalk in front of the house, watching coroner's assistants remove Abowath's body and wondering aloud why their neighborhood had been victimized.

"I thought we had got away from

all this," said one distraught woman, who had moved to the neighborhood only a month ago from the San Gabriel Valley, where at least four killings are believed to have been committed by the same man.

"I keep thinking that if I hadn't closed the window, it could have been us," the woman said. "I guess it would be silly to move again. There doesn't seem to be any way to move away from it."

Block said that the first of the related homicides may have occurred in the San Gabriel Valley. Since then, calls from citizens to the Sheriff's Department have increased by "200% to 300%," Block said. Heightened awareness among residents, as well as additional patrols, may explain why later killings occurred elsewhere, he speculated.

Northridge Attack

One non-fatal attack believed to be related to the slayings took place Tuesday in Northridge, where an intruder awakened a 38-year-old man and his wife and shot both of them in the head at close range with a small-caliber pistol before escaping as the wounded man gave chase.

The couple, Christopher and Virginia Petersen, gave investigators a description of their assailant that was similar to those offered by other survivors and witnesses. The

attacker, they said, was 25 to 30 years old, 6 feet tall and 160 pounds with curly brown hair.

Authorities said the killer's front teeth are badly stained and have a wide gap. The Northridge incident was not linked initially to Thursday's assault in Diamond Bar. But when pressed by reporters, Block admitted a connection.

"It appears that the person responsible for these acts . . . may be the person involved in similar incidents," Block said. "In all of the half-dozen of those cases, we have seen similarities that lead us to believe the same person or persons is responsible."

Specifics Withheld

Despite the similarities, police are puzzled by some characteristics.

"Victims run the gamut in age, from 16 to upper 60s—women living alone, women living together, couples," Block said. "There does not seem to be a uniformity of any kind in the type of victim."

Block would not specify which slayings and non-fatal assaults had been linked to one man. To do so, he said "would give people a false sense of security where there have been no attacks and would create hysteria in areas where there have been murders."

However, investigators theorize that victims may have included:

- William Doi, 65, of Monterey Park, shot to death and his wife assaulted on May 14.

- Mabel Bell, 84, of Monrovia, severely beaten June 2 and who later died. Her sister, Florence Lang, 81, also was badly beaten but survived.

- Patty Elaine Higgins, 32, found dead June 28 in her Arcadia home. Her throat had been slashed.

- Mary Cannon, 75, another Arcadia resident, found dead June 2 in her home with her throat slashed.

- Chainarong Khovanath, 32, shot to death in his Sun Valley home while sleeping. His wife was assaulted and their 8-year-old son beaten. A man was seen driving away in a maroon-colored Pontiac Grand Prix with a damaged right fender.

Block said that based on information investigators now have, chances are slim of solving the killings soon.

Homeowner With Gun

"Unless our investigation strikes a vein of gold, I would suspect that this guy may wind up getting caught by a homeowner with a gun," the sheriff said.

Detectives assigned to the task force from various police departments are not working out of a central office, but are exchanging information and tips on a regular basis, according to officials.

STAR-NEWS

PASADENA, CALIFORNIA, THURSDAY, JULY 4, 1996

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Murder victims' throats were slashed

By LAURA NICHOLSON
Staff Writer

Two Arcadia women murdered during the past week both had their throats slashed, and officials said Wednesday they could not rule out the possibility that the murders were committed by the same person.

"We can't exclude the possibility it's connected, but we're

not sure it is either," said Lt. Dick Honaker of the Arcadia Police Department.

Honaker stressed that the murders of 75-year-old Mary Louise Cannon and 32-year-old Patty Elaine Higgins on opposite sides of the city could be coincidental.

"Other than the type of wound, I'm not aware of any

evidence that links them," he said. But he added, "There's a lot of scared people out there."

An autopsy performed Wednesday on Cannon showed that she died of a laceration to the throat.

Her partially clothed body was found Tuesday morning in her bed at her home in the 300 block of Haven Avenue in Arca-

dia, a quiet residential street north of the 210 Freeway.

Cannon sustained other injuries, but Sgt. Frank Salerno of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's homicide bureau refused to elaborate.

Whether the women were

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Murder:

Link not ruled out

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sexually assaulted also was not known, Honaker said.

Cannon was murdered five days after Higgins' partially clothed body was found on the bathroom floor of her home in the 600 block of Naomi Avenue, south of Santa Anita Fashion Park.

"(Homicide detectives) won't commit themselves that it killed her, but (Higgins) had a lacerated throat," Honaker said.

She also was beaten.

Investigators also discovered a partially opened window with the screen off at Cannon's home, and Honaker said "there's a good indication they went through a side window," to get into Higgins' home.

Honaker noted that Cannon's home had been ransacked while Higgins' home was intact. In both cases the obvious valuables, such as televisions and jewelry, seemed to be accounted for.

"We do not know the motive at this point (for either killing)," said Salerno, who is investigating both slayings.

He added that the department is asking for help from the community to find the killer or killers. Anyone with information is asked to call the sheriff's homicide bureau at (213) 974-4341.

The Cannon murder has scared the city's seniors, a member of one the city's senior citizens' groups said, but the seniors have not talked much about the incident.

"It's just that we're afraid. So many of us live alone," said the woman, who asked not to be identified.

The woman admitted that she forgets to lock her door sometime and is generally careless about security, but "after these things you become more cautious."

Meanwhile, the Arcadia Police Department was flooded with calls Wednesday from people looking for help securing their homes, Honaker said. Members of the department's crime prevention bureau were being kept busy performing free security checks, he said.

Weather: Sunny and hazy

Mostly sunny and hazy during the day and clear tonight, but with some high clouds at times. Highs in the low to mid-90s, with lows in the mid- to upper 60s.

— Full report, Page A-2

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PASADENA, CALIFORNIA, THURSDAY, JULY 18, 1985

Autopsy shows Monrovia died from blow to head

By LAURA NICHOLSON
Staff Writer

A blow to the head killed 83-year-old Mabel Bell more than six weeks after her battered body was found in her home along with that of her sister, a coroner's autopsy showed Wednesday.

Bell was found with her sister, Florence Lang, 81, in the home they shared on North Alta Vista Avenue in

Monrovia on June 1. They may have been lying there for two days, authorities theorized.

On Monday, Bell died of the injuries sustained in the attack. Her sister remains in critical condition on life support equipment in a local hospital.

Investigators have been looking at the possibility that the brutal beatings are connected to a string of murders

and attacks in Arcadia, Sierra Madre and Monterey Park.

On Tuesday night, Arcadia City Council offered a \$5,000 reward for information that leads to the arrest and conviction of the person or people who murdered 32-year-old Patty Elaine Higgins and 75-year-old Mary Louise Cannon in their Arcadia homes.

Higgins, killed June 28, and Cannon,

who died July 2, were both found badly beaten and with their throats slashed.

Sheriff's homicide detectives arrested one man, 25-year-old Highland Park resident Miguel Angel Paez, Monday night in Pasadena in connection with the apparently unconnected murder of Rosemead resident Dayle Okazaki last March.

They haven't ruled out the possibili-

ty that Paez is somehow connected to the other murders and attacks, said Sgt. Frank Salerno of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's homicide bureau.

But friends of the man have steadfastly disputed the allegation.

"It's a mind-scrambling situation,"

Please see **AUTOPSY**,
Back page, this section

Autopsy: Sister died from blow to head

Continued from Page A-1

one friend, who asked not to be identified, told the Star-News. "There would be no way he could be the person they're looking for."

Authorities must decide today if charges will be filed against the man.

Meanwhile, Pasadena police ruled out the possibility that a slaying in the 100 block of South Catalina Avenue Tuesday was linked to the rash of murders and attacks.

Kim Chi Thi Nguyen, 30, was found about 3 p.m. in the bedroom of the apartment she shared with her boyfriend. She

was strangled to death, a coroner's autopsy showed Wednesday.

Pasadena Agent William Bergner said he could release no further details of the killing, but said "we have a feeling it's a lot different," from the other slayings.

The rash of violent attacks has caused a steady stream of calls from residents, especially women, who are frightened by what was happened, said Lt. Richard Honaker of the Arcadia Police Department.

"People are jumpy," Honaker said.

Most of the calls are from people reporting suspicious

people in their neighborhoods, Honaker said.

One 16-year-old girl reported a burglary in which the alleged assailant bears a similar physical description to the person that attacked a woman in Monterey Park, Honaker said.

"It's a general description, but we don't have more to go on than that," Honaker said.

The attempted burglary occurred about 1:20 p.m. Saturday in the 600 block of Woodruff Avenue. The girl, who was home alone, spotted a man looking in the window of her house, Honaker said.

She ran to the back door of

the home, where the man was trying to break in, then turned and fled out the front door to a neighbor's house, Honaker said.

The neighbor confronted the man, who allegedly said, "Don't bother me. I've got a gun," and fled.

He was last seen in the 2400 block of South Baldwin Avenue, Honaker said.

He was described as a Caucasian, possibly of East Indian background, between 20 and 30 years old, about 5 feet, 10 inches tall with a thin build. He had dark hair, a very dark mustache and was wearing a white sport shirt and dark pants.

STAR-NEWS

PASADENA, CALIFORNIA, WEDNESDAY, JULY 17, 1985

Area man arrested in murder

Links to other deaths sought

By LAURA NICHOLSON
Staff Writer

A Highland Park man, arrested in connection with a Rosemead murder after being surrounded by more than 30 sheriff's deputies, is under investigation for links to other recent murders and assaults, a Los Angeles County sheriff's detective said Tuesday.

Miguel
A n g e l
Paez, 25,
was taken
into custo-
dy Monday
a b o u t 8
p . m . at
Arlington
Drive and
O r a n g e
G r o v e
Boulevard in Pasadena.

■ A Pasadena woman was found murdered in her apartment Tuesday, but authorities are not sure if her death is related to the rash of recent murders. Story, A-10.

"He, at this time, is not a suspect in the murders that have occurred recently in the San Gabriel Valley," said Sgt. Frank Salerno of the Sheriff's homicide bureau. "However, we are still investigating the possibility of him being linked to those murders."

Paez was taken to the East Los Angeles division of the sheriff's department and later transferred to County Jail, where he is being held without bail pending the formal filing of charges Thursday, Salerno said.

Paez is a suspect in the murder of Dayle Okazaki, 35, who was found shot to death in the kitchen of her home in the 8500 block of Village Lane in Rosemead last March. Okazaki's roommate, Marie Hernandez, also was shot when she saw the alleged assailant leaving the home, officials said.

People who know the man said they were shocked at news of Paez's arrest, and believed he could not have murdered anyone.

"They're jumping to conjecture," one friend said of the sheriff's department. "Guns and Miguel don't mix, ever, or a knife, not him. ... He's not a murderer."

Paez was a martial arts stu-

Please see MURDER,
Back page, this section

Murder: Area man arrested

Continued from Page A-1

dent, the friend said, who never used a gun.

He doesn't even match the physical description given for the Okazaki murder or the recent attacks, the friend said.

Paez is 5 feet, 9 inches tall and weighs 130 pounds. He has dark straight hair and is clean shaven, the friend said.

But a physical composite of the person suspected in the Okazaki murder stands between 5 feet 10 inches and 6 feet tall and has a moustache.

In addition, the person wanted in connection with the recent attacks weighs about 160 pounds, the friend said.

Another woman, a 93-year-old Altadena resident, said Paez had often taken care of her after she became unable to care for herself.

"I can't believe he has had anything to do with violence to anyone," she said. "He's such a fine person."

She said Paez last stayed with her July 4 and did not leave until about 7 the next morning. On that morning, at about 6 a.m., a 16-year-old girl was beaten severely in Sierra Madre. She was able to return home from an area hospital last weekend, said Sierra Madre Police Chief Irwin Betts.

Investigators have been watching Paez for the past four days, Salerno said, but he would not say what made investigators believe he might be involved in the murder of Okazaki or any other recent murders or assaults in the area.

Investigators have not been certain that the attacks are linked but have mounted a massive effort to find the person or persons involved.

The death toll in those cases rose to five Monday when 83-year-old Mabel Bell died six weeks after she was found beaten along with her elderly sister on June 1 at their Monrovia home. Her sister remains in critical condition in an area hospi-

tal.

Earlier, on May 14, a 65-year-old man was shot to death and his wife was raped in Monterey Park. During the next several weeks, two women were killed in Arcadia, a 60-year-old woman was beaten to death in Monterey Park and the 16-year-old girl from Sierra Madre was beaten in her home.

Investigators were looking for any clothing or other property that would link Paez to the Okazaki murder or the other attacks when they served search warrants at his home on Chestnut Avenue in Highland Park and at a home in the 900 block

of Pasadena Avenue, where he visited frequently, Salerno said.

He did not elaborate on what was found at the homes.

Armand Bytton, who was in the car with Paez at the time of his arrest, said they had been working on plans to form a non-profit corporation called the Institute for Human Understanding that would help the mentally ill.

Bytton said he was going to give Paez a ride home when they saw an unmarked car out front and Paez remarked that "he was being watched." He didn't say how he knew that, Bytton said.

Moments later the car was stopped.

Pasadena woman murdered

By WAYNE HARPE
Staff Writer

A 30-year-old Pasadena woman was found murdered in the bedroom of her second-floor apartment Tuesday afternoon, and detectives said they could not rule out the possibility that her death might be connected to a string of recent killings and assaults in the West San Gabriel Valley.

Kim Chi Thi Nguyen, a Vietnamese immigrant, was found

dead inside her apartment building at 144 S. Catalina Ave. about 3 p.m., detective William Bergner of the Pasadena Police Department said.

Police were unwilling to comment on the cause of death, but estimated she had been killed Tuesday morning. They were not certain if the woman had been beaten or sexually assaulted, Bergner said.

An autopsy is being performed; the results are expected

to be released today, he said.

Details on the type of weapon used and the condition of the victim's body were not disclosed. Detectives said they are releasing only sketchy details so as not to damage their investigation.

"At this time, there's not a lot of information we can give out," Bergner said.

The victim's body was discovered by her roommate, who notified emergency units, he said.

SIERRA MADRE NEWS

Monrovia-Duarte & Hastings Ranch

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of
July
Photos
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Sierra Madre News — Thursday, July 11, 1985

Vol. 80 — No. 36

Sierra Madre minor assaulted in early morning at her home

Three murders and three assaults during the past five weeks within a four-mile radius have Los Angeles Sheriff's investigators stymied. Two of the murders were in Arcadia last week, one assault was in Sierra Madre early Saturday, a murder was in Monterey Park early Sunday, and two assaults were in Monrovia five weeks ago.

At this point, investigators have placed an information blackout on the assault that happened at 5:45 a.m., July 6 in the 1100 block of Arno Dr., Sierra Madre, says Los Angeles Deputy Lynda Edmonds.

The victim is a female, 16, who was at home during the apparent burglary. She was bludgeoned on the upper body and is in a nearby hospital. Edmonds says it is unknown if there were a property loss.

Moving backward in time, on Sunday, July 7, 61-year-old Joyce Lucille Nelson was found dead of multiple injuries to her head and neck in her East Arlight Dr. home in Monterey Park.

On July 2, Mary Cannon, 75, of 310 E. Haven Ave. in Arcadia was found murdered at 9:30 a.m. She had injuries to the upper body and a slashed throat.

On Friday, June 28, in the early morning hours Patty Elaine Higgins, 32, a schoolteacher who lived alone, was found murdered in her home. She had multiple injuries including a slashed throat.

The beginning of this cluster of attacks on women in this area started on June 2 when two women were found about 11:30 a.m. after having been bludgeoned sometime within the previous two days. They are Mabel Bell, 83, and Florence Lang, in her 80s. The location of their home is 443 N. Alta Vista Ave., Monrovia. They were discovered by a gardener who saw a door into the home open. He walked into the home and found the two seriously injured women.

Both women are still at Methodist Hospital in Arcadia and remain in extremely critical condition, Deputy Edmonds says.

The News asked investigators about the similarities and they answered that there were also some differences in all the cases. They decline comment on whether any of the cases are related.

Sierra Madre News contacted several neighbors of the teenager who was bludgeoned and all of them said they knew nothing about it, heard nothing until the police questioned each of them.

L.A.'s Broken Pattern of Death

Apparent Serial Killer's Actions Increasingly Defy Prediction

By Katharine Macdonald
Special to The Washington Post

LOS ANGELES, Aug. 28—He enters, almost always, just before the dead of night gives way to dawn. He enters, almost always, a yellow or beige house, through an unlocked window or door. And then, almost always, he walks to the bed where his victims sleep and shoots them in the head.

He is the Night Stalker.

The Night Stalker is the latest serial killer to terrorize Los Angeles, setting a pattern only to break it.

For a time, his habit of entering through unlocked, sometimes open, windows and doors inspired the name the Walk-In Killer. But the pattern did not hold: In one of the killings attributed to him, the victim, 30-year-old student Tsai-Lian Yu, was dragged from her car and fatally shot.

The Los Angeles Herald-Examiner coined the name "Night Stalker" in a banner headline on its front page. The Los Angeles Times called him the Valley Intruder. Some police officers called him the 818 Killer because he had chosen all his victims within the 818 area code of the San Gabriel and San Fernando valleys.

But last week, police say, he went to San Francisco and fired bullets into the heads of a sleeping couple who would have been entitled to think that the Valley Intruder was someone for southern Californians to worry about. Southern Californians breathed more easily: The killer had migrated north.

Then, last Sunday, someone entered a house in Orange County just before 3 a.m. Bill Carns, the 29-year-old owner, was shot in the head and his fiancée was raped. Police investigators, who are withholding information about a signature piece of evidence the killer leaves behind, had no doubt: the Night Stalker had returned.

His victims are young and old, men and women and children, Caucasian and Oriental. He does not always shoot them. Some have been beaten to death. Some have been stabbed. Two have had their throats slashed. Not all of his vic-



BY LARRY FOGEL—THE WASHINGTON POST

were shot in the head—including Carns, listed in critical condition today at Mission Community Hospital—have survived.

Some of the survivors have described their attacker to police. He is, said Commander William Booth of the Los Angeles Police Department, a Caucasian with a tan complexion, brown curly hair and brown eyes. He stands 6 feet to 6 feet, 2 inches tall and weighs about 150 pounds.

His teeth are widely spaced and badly stained. A dentist who told law enforcement agencies that he had treated a man closely resembling a composite drawing of the Night Stalker has turned over the patient's records to authorities.

Last week, Los Angeles County Sheriff Sherman Block told a news conference that the Night Stalker has been linked firmly to 14 murders, the first on March 17, and 19 other assaults. Authorities now say they are investigating the possibility that he also was responsible for a series of child molestations in the San Gabriel Valley.

pounded an orange Toyota station wagon linked to the attack on the Orange County couple. Booth said an anonymous caller tipped police about the location of the car, which had been stolen last week in Chinatown. Its owner said the car had contained literature from his church, which has since received several crank calls from someone who refuses to speak.

Police have sent copies of the composite drawing to gas stations and convenience stores. Leaflets telling citizens how to protect themselves from the Night Stalker were made available today at local police stations. The LAPD's Booth said, "I don't know that you can see much discernible pattern" that would warn police where the killer will look for his next victim.

But Dr. Alfred Coodley, professor emeritus of clinical psychology at the University of Southern California's medical school, and a consultant to the criminal division of the Los Angeles Superior Court, sees a pattern.

"It's true that in the past, serial killers have seemed to select a rather definite kind of person," Coodley said. "They looked for an elderly person, or a child, or someone with a particular kind of hairdo. This one, on the surface, does not seem to have done this. . . . He has selected a whole family."

Coodley said he believes that the man now notorious as the Night Stalker was so abused as a child that he developed into "a borderline personality: very impulsive, poorly controlled and unpredictable." Coodley surmises that the killer is gripped in a "sadistic rage" triggered by some recent event in his life and that his travels to San Francisco and Orange County may have repeated some childhood move.

The "compulsive, driven" killings, Coodley said, bring the Night Stalker "a sick gratification. But that rapidly disappears, and it needs to be repeated."

In Los Angeles, people are shutting and locking windows, no matter how hot it gets. Some residents say they are buying guns. And many seem newly conscious of the color of their houses—wondering whether the pattern, such as it is, will

Drifter Held in 16 Nighttime Slayings in California

By ROBERT LINDSEY

Special to The New York Times

LOS ANGELES, Aug. 31 — Police officials announced the arrest today of a man they believe to be the "night stalker," the killer thought responsible for the slayings of at least 16 people in California since February.

The suspect was identified as Richard Ramirez, an unemployed 25-year-old drifter who has a police record for minor offenses.

The series of brutal murders committed by a mysterious intruder who entered homes at night or in the early morning hours through unlocked doors

and windows, had caused fear and apprehension in this area for weeks.

But detectives said the manhunt for the "night stalker" came to a end quickly.

Late last night, investigators announced that a fingerprint found in a stolen car they said was used by the killer had been identified as made by Mr. Ramirez.

Arrest Followed a Chase

Shortly after noon today, Lieut. Richard Walls of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department announced that Mr. Ramirez had been arrested in East Los Angeles. Lieutenant Walls said the

arrest was made after residents had seen Mr. Ramirez and began chasing him about 9 this morning.

According to witnesses, residents of the predominantly Hispanic community spotted Mr. Ramirez trying to break into several cars and at one point trying to pull a woman from behind the wheel of her car.

Her husband, they said, confronted Mr. Ramirez and began beating him on the head before he managed to flee.

As Mr. Ramirez was led into the city's Hollebeck Division police station, he appeared to have head injuries, as a result of his confrontation with the angry husband. Lieutenant Walls

said later that the suspect was being taken to a county hospital.

A check of his fingerprints was made, Mr. Walls said, "and I am happy to announce that the individual we have in custody is Richard Ramirez, the 'night stalker'."

Investigators have said more than 20 rapes and assaults on Californians in addition to 16 murders were committed by the same person.

In virtually every case, detectives say, the killer entered his victims' homes at night or in the early morning hours through unlocked doors or windows, killed any men and then raped women in the homes. The attacks have been marked by extraordinary viciousness, detectives say, with the women often bludgeoned to death after being raped.

It was not until early this month that investigators determined that there was a pattern to the attacks, although the first of the killings is believed to have occurred in February.

Many of the victims lived in suburbs east of Los Angeles. Other attacks occurred in Orange County to the south and in San Francisco, almost 400 miles to the north.

Investigators said there were fewer apparent common denominators in the "night stalker" attacks than in most recent serial murder cases.

Many of the victims were of Asian ancestry, but there were few other similarities. Men as well as women have been killed, and the victims' ages have ranged from 18 to 83. Some victims were shot to death with .22-caliber and .25-caliber pistols, but some were strangled and others' throats were cut.

Investigators identified Mr. Ramirez as their principal suspect in the case after some detective work involving advanced technology.

The fingerprint match was made through use of a recently developed, \$35,000 laser detection system that spots obscure fingerprints on plastics and other materials on which prints are not detectable by ordinary methods.

Also, a photograph of him was found to resemble a sketch of the killer based on witnesses' descriptions.

Mr. Ramirez, a native of El Paso, Tex., appears to have lived in Los Angeles for several years but also visited San Francisco often, officials said. "He has a criminal record for relatively minor offenses," Mr. Block said, with arrests for gambling violations, traffic offenses and drug possession.

Fear of 'Stalker' rides high

L.A. citizens turn to Guardian Angels for protection

By Roberta Ostroff
and Eric Brazil
USA TODAY 8-28-85

LOS ANGELES — Women in the San Gabriel Valley — fearing attack by the "Night Stalker" — "adopted" Guard-

ian Angels Tuesday, taking them home for protection.

Angel leader Curtis Sliwa said 42 valley residents requested Angels to stay in their homes Tuesday night; another 50 Angels patrolled streets in Orange County. The Stalker

has attacked in both areas.

"With an Angel, I will have a lot of confidence," said Margaret Del Castillo, 68.

"I've never been this scared before. My house is yellow, and I live near three major freeways," said Carol Shultz, 36.

The Stalker is suspected of 14 killings and 21 other attacks from San Francisco to Orange County's Mission Viejo. Many of his victims lived in yellow houses near freeways.

Kathy Novell, 27, and her daughter, 4, who live in a yellow duplex, called the Angels after an attack by the Stalker two blocks away in July.

"It will be a different feeling knowing that they're sitting ... on my living room sofa ready

to pounce," she said.

In developments Tuesday:

■ The Stalker may have used a stolen car — an orange, 1976 Toyota — in Sunday's Mission Viejo attack. Bill Carns, 29, was shot in the head and remains in critical condition. His girlfriend was raped.

■ The Orange County sheriff announced his department will stop suspicious-looking cars and increase nighttime helicopter surveillance.

■ Los Angeles police released a new composite drawing of the Night Stalker wearing a baseball cap.

The Stalker is described as Caucasian or Hispanic, in his 20s, with dark curly hair and stained, gapped teeth.

Los Angeles Star 8-2-85

Police are on trail of 'Night Stalker'

By DENNIS ANDERSON
Associated Press Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP)—A man-hunt was under way today for a 25-year-old man identified by authorities as the "Night Stalker," whose spree of 16 killings and 21 other attacks has terrorized Californians.

"He is considered armed and extremely dangerous," Los Angeles County Sheriff Sherman Block said at a hastily called news conference Friday night of the suspect, Richard Ramirez. "We have no idea where he is."

Authorities say Ramirez is an unemployed Hispanic whose offenses seem to have escalated from petty gambling and drug offenses to rape and murder.

Orange County Sheriff Brad Gates said a fingerprint found in a stolen car believed used in the Night Stalker's most recent attack helped authorities make the identification. Police Chief Daryl Gates said identification came Friday.

Block said he wanted Ramirez to know every police officer in the state was looking for him and that

Richard
Ramirez



"every citizen will now know exactly what this individual looks like."

At a simultaneous news conference in San Francisco, police Chief Cornelius P. Murphy said there were "rumors and speculation that he is on his way to San Francisco. It's only speculation, but we are treating it as fact."

The three officials in Los Angeles displayed a photograph of Ramirez, who bears a striking resemblance to the portrait of a gap-toothed curly-haired man drawn from composite descriptions of the Night Stalker by people who have seen him. That picture has been circulated throughout the state in recent weeks.

Ramirez has lived in Los Angeles for several years and also frequented San Francisco, but he was believed to have come to California from El Paso, Texas, authorities said.

There was nothing in Ramirez' criminal record to suggest the ferocity attributed to the killer who

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Manhunt

from page 1

has attacked people in their homes as they sleep, Block said. "He has a criminal record for relatively minor offenses."

Ramirez's record included gambling violations, traffic offenses and drug possession, Block said. He was arrested by Los Angeles police as recently as Dec. 12, 1984, but the nature of the offense was not immediately known.

Ramirez has used aliases, including Noah Jimenez, Richard Moreno, Richard Munoz, Nicholas Adame and Richard Mena, said Block.

He was described as 6 foot 1, 155 pounds, with black hair, brown eyes, thick lips, bulging eyes and extreme decay of the upper and lower front teeth.

El Paso Police Sgt. Armando Nava said his department had no immediate information on Ramirez or when he last lived in El Paso.

The Night Stalker has entered homes through unlocked doors and windows at night, bludgeoning, raping and shooting victims ranging in age from 16 to 83. Most attacks have been in Los Angeles County, but other victims lived as far away as San Francisco, 600 miles north.

Murphy said police believe Ramirez is responsible for all the Night Stalker killings. "There is no indication of any 'copy cat' involved," he said.

Four kidnappings and molestations, involving children as young as 6, may also be linked to the killer, police said. A reward for information leading to the capture has swelled to more than \$70,000.

Ramirez was believed to be driving a green 1976 Pontiac Gran Prix with license number 1LFA239. Under certain lighting conditions, the car appears to be maroon, Block said.

"We made his identification on a combination of bits and pieces of information, fingerprints; mug shots and arrest records were a part of that pattern of information," Block said.

Law enforcement officials, who have refused to divulge numerous details of the Night Stalker attacks, considered withholding the identity, Block said. "We went through an agonizing, soul searching discussion as to whether to proceed on this identification (for the news media)."

Many frightened residents have taken to sleeping with guns, golf clubs, baseball bats or other weapons, including cans of hair spray.

William Carns, 29, shot and critically wounded, and his fiancée, who was raped, were believed to be the latest victims of the Night Stalker. They were attacked Sunday in Mission Viejo, 50 miles southeast of Los Angeles.

L.A.'s Broken Pattern of Death

Apparent Serial Killer's Actions Increasingly Defy Prediction

By Katharine Macdonald
Special to The Washington Post

LOS ANGELES, Aug. 28—He enters, almost always, just before the dead of night gives way to dawn. He enters, almost always, a yellow or beige house, through an unlocked window or door. And then, almost always, he walks to the bed where his victims sleep and shoots them in the head.

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The Night Stalker is the latest serial killer to terrorize Los Angeles, setting a pattern only to break it.

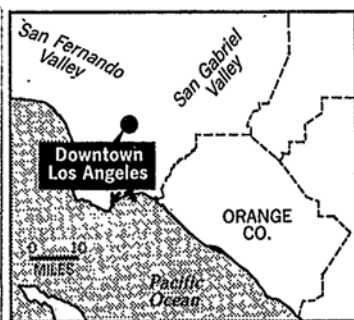
For a time, his habit of entering through unlocked, sometimes open, windows and doors inspired the name the Walk-In Killer. But the pattern did not hold: In one of the killings attributed to him, the victim, 30-year-old student Tsai-Lian Yu, was dragged from her car and fatally shot.

The Los Angeles Herald-Examiner coined the name "Night Stalker" in a banner headline on its front page. The Los Angeles Times called him the Valley Intruder. Some police officers called him the 818 Killer because he had chosen all his victims within the 818 area code of the San Gabriel and San Fernando valleys.

But last week, police say, he went to San Francisco and fired bullets into the heads of a sleeping couple who would have been entitled to think that the Valley Intruder was someone for southern Californians to worry about. Southern Californians breathed more easily: The killer had migrated north.

Then, last Sunday, someone entered a house in Orange County just before 3 a.m. Bill Carns, the 29-year-old owner, was shot in the head and his fiancée was raped. Police investigators, who are withholding information about a signature piece of evidence the killer leaves behind, had no doubt: the Night Stalker had returned.

His victims are young and old, men and women and children, Caucasian and Oriental. He does not always shoot them. Some have been beaten to death. Some have been stabbed. Two have had their throats slashed. Not all of his victims have died; even some who



BY LARRY FOGEL—THE WASHINGTON POST

were shot in the head—including Carns, listed in critical condition today at Mission Community Hospital—have survived.

Some of the survivors have described their attacker to police. He is, said Commander William Booth of the Los Angeles Police Department, a Caucasian with a tan complexion, brown curly hair and brown eyes. He stands 6 feet to 6 feet, 2 inches tall and weighs about 150 pounds.

His teeth are widely spaced and badly stained. A dentist who told law enforcement agencies that he had treated a man closely resembling a composite drawing of the Night Stalker has turned over the patient's records to authorities.

Last week, Los Angeles County Sheriff Sherman Block told a news conference that the Night Stalker has been linked firmly to 14 murders, the first on March 17, and 19 other assaults. Authorities now say they are investigating the possibility that he also was responsible for a series of child molestations in the San Gabriel Valley.

Today Los Angeles police im-

pounded an orange Toyota station wagon linked to the attack on the Orange County couple. Booth said an anonymous caller tipped police about the location of the car, which had been stolen last week in Chino town. Its owner said the car had contained literature from his church, which has since received several crank calls from someone who refuses to speak.

Police have sent copies of the composite drawing to gas stations and convenience stores. Leaflets telling citizens how to protect themselves from the Night Stalker were made available today at local police stations. The LAPD's Booth said, "I don't know that you can see much discernible pattern" that would warn police where the killer will look for his next victim.

But Dr. Alfred Coodley, professor emeritus of clinical psychology at the University of Southern California's medical school, and a consultant to the criminal division of the Los Angeles Superior Court, sees a pattern.

"It's true that in the past, serial killers have seemed to select a rather definite kind of person," Coodley said. "They looked for an elderly person, or a child, or someone with a particular kind of hairdo. This one, on the surface, does not seem to have done this . . . He has selected a whole family."

Coodley said he believes that the man now notorious as the Night Stalker was so abused as a child that he developed into "a borderline personality: very impulsive, poorly controlled and unpredictable." Coodley surmises that the killer is gripped in a "sadistic rage" triggered by some recent event in his life and that his travels to San Francisco and Orange County may have repeated some childhood move.

The "compulsive, driven" killings, Coodley said, bring the Night Stalker "a sick gratification. But that rapidly disappears, and it needs to be repeated."

In Los Angeles, people are shutting and locking windows, no matter how hot it gets. Some residents say they are buying guns. And many seem newly conscious of the color of their houses—wondering whether the pattern, such as it is, will hold.

Woman becomes 2nd Arcadia murder victim

By JOYCE HEDGES
Staff Writer

A 75-year-old woman was found slain in her east Arcadia home Tuesday, the second murder in five days in that residential community.

Mary Louise Cannon's partially clothed body was discovered on a bed in the rear of her home in the 300 block of Haven Avenue by Arcadia police at about 9:30 a.m., said Sgt. Michael Kenyon, a spokesman for the

Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department. Since the home was ransacked, burglary is the apparent motive, he said.

Sheriff's deputies, called in to aid Arcadia police in the investigation, said only that Cannon died from "injuries to the upper portion of her body."

"It makes you feel the whole neighborhood has

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Mary Welkert / Star-News

The killer of Mary Louise Cannon of Arcadia entered the window at left Tuesday

Murder: 2nd victim in Arcadia

Continued from Page A-1

been violated ... After this anybody'd be nervous," said James Finnigan, who has lived on the street since 1949.

Neighbors up and down the street commented on similarities between Cannon's death and that of Patty Elaine Higgins, 32, who also lived alone and who was found murdered last Friday in her Arcadia home.

Though Higgins was beaten about the chest and shoulders and possibly stabbed, an autopsy report showing exactly how she died is still pending, said Lt. Dick Honaker of the Arcadia Police Department.

Higgins' body was discovered at about 9 a.m. Friday in the bathroom of her home in the 600 block of Naomi Avenue, a few miles away from where Cannon lived, police said.

However, the sheriff's department "has not drawn any connection between the two incidents," said Deputy Willie Miller, a sheriff's spokeswoman at the scene.

"It's just very scary. I can't believe it," said Cindy Snyder, a

secretary who has lived on Haven Avenue for three years.

A neighbor, who regularly checked on Cannon, called her home several times Tuesday morning. When there was no answer, the neighbor entered the home, using a key he had been given, and found evidence the home had been ransacked before calling police, said deputies.

Neighbor Frank Starich noticed a screen was down on Cannon's front bedroom window Tuesday morning and he put it back in place for her before realizing something might be amiss, he said.

An offer Starich made to install window blocks in Cannon's home, to keep the windows from being opened more than five inches, was turned down, he said. She was in no hurry to have it done, saying "There's a lot of time," said Starich.

Though Cannon's 1940s-era home was equipped with air conditioning, "She always slept with the window open," said Starich's wife, Tina.

Cannon had been over at the Starich home Monday evening

talking about a car accident she'd had earlier in the day in which she'd injured her nose and forehead, she said.

The victim was a "very good person" and an active member of the local senior citizen's group, Mrs. Starish said. Cannon had made plans to visit Australia with the group in October.

Cannon's husband died three years ago, said Starich. The couple had two grown sons living outside California.

This is Arcadia's second murder of the year, one more than in all of 1984.

A memorial service for Patricia Higgins will be held at Arcadia Presbyterian Church on Tuesday at 2 p.m. The church is located at 121 Alice St., at the corner of First Avenue in Arcadia.

Friends are asked to send donations to the Patty Higgins Memorial Fund, established by the Monrovia Teachers Association. Contributions should be addressed to the fund, care of Monrovia Unified School District, 325 E. Huntington Drive, Monrovia, CA 91016.

STAR-NEWS

PASADENA, CALIFORNIA, SUNDAY, JULY 7, 1985

Assault on girl similar to murders in Arcadia

By WAYNE HARPE
Staff Writer

A Friday morning assault on a 16-year-old Sierra Madre girl may be linked to the recent murders of two Arcadia women, the Sheriff's Information Bureau said Saturday.

The girl was found bludgeoned in her home in the 1100 block of Arno Drive after Sierra Madre police responded to a 5:45 a.m. report of a burglary in progress, said Sgt. Steve Finley, a sheriff's spokesman.

The attacker apparently had fled by the time police arrived.

The victim's identity and the location of the hospital where she received treatment were

withheld, but she was listed in satisfactory condition Saturday night, Finley said.

The girl suffered blows to the upper torso by a blunt instrument, but detectives declined to be more specific or to give any details about the attack or the weapon used, he said.

The victim apparently encountered the intruder when she arrived home, Finley said. Her attacker apparently ransacked the house, but authorities had not determined whether anything was missing, he said.

The attack on the girl was the

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Assault: Recent attack similar to murders

Continued from Page A-1

third in one week in the Sierra Madre-Arcadia area. Both murder victims had been beaten in the upper body by a blunt instrument, detectives have said.

"At this point, we can only say there's an investigation to see if the incidents are linked," Finley said.

On June 28, Patty Elaine Higgins, 32, was found murdered on the bathroom floor of her Arcadia home in the 600 block of Naomi Avenue south of Santa Anita Fashion Park, police said. Her body was partially clothed and her throat had been slashed but the exact cause of death has not been undetermined, authorities said.

Then, at about 9 a.m. Tuesday, four days after the Higgins murder, the partially clothed body of 75-year-old Mary Louise Cannon was discovered

in her Arcadia home in the 300 block of Haven Avenue, a quiet neighborhood north of the 210 Freeway, officers said.

Cannon's throat also had been slashed and she sustained other, undisclosed injuries, detectives said.

It has not been determined whether either of the murder victims had been sexually assaulted.

On Thursday, detectives said they could not rule out the possibility that the Arcadia women may have been murdered by the same person.

In both murders, police said, the intruder apparently entered through a side window. The Cannon home was ransacked while the Higgins household was left intact, officers noted.

Police said the murders have generated considerable fear among some elderly residents in Arcadia and nearby cities.

STAR-NEWS JULY 8-85

STAR-NEWS - JULY 8-85

Weather: Slightly warmer

There may be some high cloudiness today, but mostly clear skies are expected. Highs will range from 92 to 100, with lows between 66 and 74.

— Full report, Page A-2

STAR-NEWS

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PASADENA, CALIFORNIA, MONDAY, JULY 8, 1985

Murder in Monterey Park

Possible link sought to 3 other cases in nearby cities

By SELWYN EIBER
Staff Writer

A 61-year-old Monterey Park woman was found dead and beaten in her home Sunday morning, and Monterey Park police say there may be a link between the case and two recent murders in Arcadia and a bludgeoning in Sierra Madre.

Meanwhile, as news of the murder spread Sunday, neighbors of the 16-year-old girl who was assaulted in her Sierra Madre home Friday morning said they fear the girl's attacker may strike again.

On Sunday, Joyce Nelson was found dead at 10:10 a.m. in her home in the 300 block of East Arlight Drive in Monterey Park, where she had lived alone. Police discovered her body

when a neighbor called authorities to say she was worried because she hadn't seen Nelson that morning. Lt. Joe Santoro said.

"It appears that she may have been shot or beaten to death," Santoro said, although he added that police are not sure whether Nelson was shot because her body was beaten so severely. A report is expected from the county coroner today or Tuesday, Santoro said.

He acknowledged a "possible link" between Nelson's death and the incidents in Arcadia and Sierra Madre. At the moment Monterey Park police are investigating only Nelson's death, but Santoro said the incident will be reported to other police departments.

"If there is any link at all, we will

certainly work together to help solve the crime," Santoro said. The county Sheriff's Department has previously said there may be a connection between the Arcadia and Sierra Madre incidents.

Monterey Park police released a sketch they made of an unidentified man suspected in Nelson's murder. They also speculated that the murder may be linked to the murder of a Monterey Park man on May 14. In that incident, police said, an armed burglar entered the victim's home in the early morning hours, shot and killed the victim and sexually assaulted his wife.

There is no evidence that Nelson was

Please see **CRIMES**,
Page A-7

Crimes: Neighbors are shocked

Continued from Page A-1

sexually assaulted, Santoro said. But she suffered severe "blunt-force trauma" to the upper body, and her house was ransacked.

All three victims in the Arcadia and Sierra Madre cases were beaten about the upper body with a blunt instrument.

The victims in the two Arcadia cases, 32-year-old Patty Elaine Higgins and 75-year-old Mary Louise Cannon, both had their throats slashed, police said. Nelson's throat was not slashed, Santoro said, and the Sheriff's Department would not say whether the Sierra Madre girl's throat was cut.

Higgins was found dead on June 28, and Cannon was found murdered four days later.

The county Sheriff's Department is not releasing the name of the Sierra Madre victim, nor where she is being treated. She reportedly is in satisfactory condition in an area hospital, undergoing treatment for injuries.

Officials Sunday said they have obtained no further information linking the Arcadia

MONTEREY PARK SUSPECT

This is a police sketch of the man police are seeking in connection with Sunday's killing of 61-year-old Joyce Nelson of Monterey Park.

Police say the suspect is white male with brown curly hair. He is 25 to 30 years old, roughly 6 feet tall and weighs approximately 160 pounds. The name of the suspect is not known, police said.

Anyone with information concerning the case is asked to call Det. Anthony Romero at (818) 307-1243.

murders and the Sierra Madre assault.

Neighbors of the Sierra Madre girl, who lives in the 1100 block of Arno Drive, reacted to the assault with both shock and sadness.

"A 16-year-old girl. That's frightening," said one neighbor. "It can happen anywhere."

Another said, "It's very frightening to think that you might come home with all the

safety measures, and some nut might inflict bodily harm on you."

"There's been a lot of security alarms being tested over the last several days," another neighbor said. "You can hear the alarms going off."

"Of course we're all more cautious," said another neighbor. "I think the mood (of the neighborhood) is one of becoming more cautious. More so than

before ... people are making sure their house is securely locked, and that sort of thing."

"We're all very anxious for this to be resolved," said another resident. The assault, he said, "was the topic of conversation."

Thinking out loud, he added that "maybe it will be hard or impossible for (the girl and her family) to live in that house after what happened to them. I hope that's not the case."

"I don't think the punishments are strong enough to deter this kind of activity," said another neighbor, who said she favors stiffer penalties, including capital punishment.

On the day of beating, she said, police officers came to her door and told her to "be very careful and keep my windows and doors locked."

"There's a lot of people who come up to this area that I don't think should be here," she added.

"We're all increasing the neighborhood watch awareness," one neighbor said.

"We're very concerned, but we're not going to move away," he added. "We have strong security and we'll have to depend on it."

STAR-NEWS

ATURDAY, JUNE 29, 1985

STAR NEWS B-29-85

Teacher murdered in Arcadia

By LAURA NICHOLSON
Staff Writer

The battered, partially clothed body of a 32-year-old Monrovia school teacher was found Friday morning in the bathroom of her Arcadia home.

Patty Elaine Higgins, a special education teacher at Bradoaks Elementary School in Monrovia, was found about 9 a.m., after a neighbor called to report the slaying in the 600 block of Naomi Avenue, officials said.

The woman apparently was severely beaten about the chest and shoulders and may have been stabbed, but officials will need to wait for a coroner's autopsy to determine how she died, said Lt. Dick Honaker of the Arcadia Police Department.

Authorities speculate that Higgins died about midnight, about three hours after she was seen arriving home. It will take the autopsy to narrow down the time of death, Honaker said.

Construction workers, who used Higgins' phone and answered it when she was away, became worried when they heard it ring two different times the morning, Honaker said.

The calls were from school officials, who had been calling to find out why she had not arrived at work.

When the workers, who were at a site next door, went to answer the phone, they found the back door of the home ajar and Higgins' body in the bathroom.

It was not known if someone forced entry into the home, which sits at the end of the block in the suburban neighborhood one-half mile south of the Santa Anita Fashion Park, Honaker said.

The clothes Higgins wore would indicate that she was

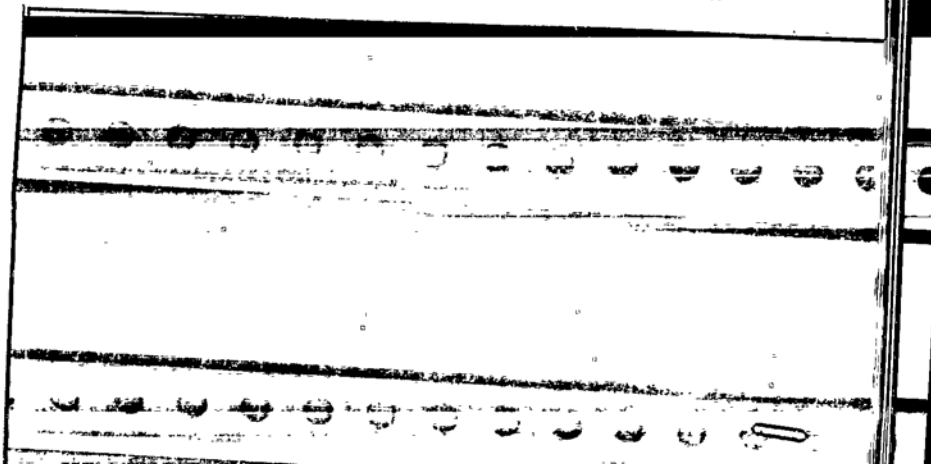
ready to go to sleep, and it did not appear that she was sexually assaulted, Honaker said.

There was no apparent motive for the slaying, he said.

Los Angeles County homicide detectives are assisting in the investigation.

Higgins joined the Monrovia Unified School District in 1981. She had been teaching in the school's resource specialist program for children in grades three to five, said Assistant Superintendent Terry Giboney.

"She was a very fine credentialed teacher," he said. "It will be a loss to the district."



STAR-NEWS

PASADENA, CALIFORNIA, WEDNESDAY, JULY 10, 1985

Friends, peers, family remember slain teacher

By LISA LOWERY
Special Correspondent

A teary-eyed boy reflected the emotion blanketing a memorial service held Tuesday afternoon for murder victim Patricia Elaine Higgins.

The boy, about 8 years old, walked down the aisle of Arcadia Presbyterian Church with two small bouquets in his hands and placed one on each side of a large floral centerpiece.

Higgins, who was murdered in her Arcadia home June 28, taught special education at Bradoaks Elementary School in the Monrovia Unified School District.

Her badly beaten body was found in the bathroom of the home where she lived alone in the 600 block of Naomi Street. She was partially clothed, and her throat had been cut.

Law enforcement officials throughout the county are hunting Higgins' killer, who may be involved with two other recent murders and a pair of brutal assaults in the West San Gabriel Valley. Officers reported no new leads in any of the cases Tuesday.

Nearly 100 of Higgins' friends, colleagues and relatives came to pay her tribute Tuesday.

Marigrace Fahey, a special education program specialist, spoke on behalf of the Monrovia

Higgins was . . . a sensitive person who found the courage to accomplish whatever task was before her.

— Margarice Fahey

teachers.

She talked of the memories Higgins' death had stirred in the teachers and the things everyone remembers her by: the plans she made, her devotion to teaching and her concern for her students.

Little things, like the time Higgins paid for a student's ticket to the Olympic track and field events, give a picture of Higgins' dedication and her ability to recognize and support a child's special interest.

Higgins was described as a small, shy and sensitive person who carefully cherished and guarded her private life, but always managed to find the courage to accomplish whatever task was before her.

A memorial fund has been started in Higgins' name. Contributions may be made to The Patty Higgins Memorial Fund, c/o Monrovia Teachers Association- Monrovia Unified School District, 325 Huntington Drive, Monrovia, CA 91016.

Star news
July 10 85

Arcadia Tribune

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A FOOTHILL INTER-CITY NEWSPAPER — MONROVIA JOURNAL

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SUNDAY, JUNE 30, 1985

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VOL. 76, NO. 52

Kidnapped victim found in Los Angeles area

By LISA LOWERY
and LAURA NICHOLSON
Staff Writers

A 6½-year-old Arcadia girl was abducted from her home sometime between 12:30 and 3:30 a.m. Thursday, sexually assaulted and then released by her captor.

The girl's parents reported her missing at 4 a.m., and she was found about 4:30 a.m. near downtown Los Angeles where she had been released by the suspect.

Lt. Dave Hinig of Arcadia police said they were telephoned by the victim's parents who live in the 1500 block of S. First Ave., and a crime broadcast was made to all area law enforcement agencies.

About 30 minutes after the apparent kidnapping, a girl of the victim's description was found by patrolling Rampart area officers at Union Avenue and Seventh Street, Hinig said.

The police of the two cities quickly determined that the found child was the missing Arcadia girl.

Although there was no visible sign that she had been sexually molested, the girl was taken to Arcadia Methodist Hospital where it was determined she had been, reported the Arcadia police.

Regarding the nature of the crime, Arcadia detective Lt. Dick Honaker said they would not go into detail, but said later Thursday that, "the girl is in good shape now."

Preliminary questioning of the girl by Los Angeles and Arcadia officers indicated that the child did not recognize the person who abducted her, Hinig said.

Investigations disclosed the suspect pried open the girl's bedroom window and coned her outside, said Honaker. She then was taken to an apartment or hotel in the Los Angeles area where she was molested.

The police are trying to build some kind of composite drawing of the suspect, but only have a vague description. The suspect is believed to be a male Caucasian, 35 to 45 years old and driving an older model car. Honaker said they were pretty sure the suspect is a Los Angeles resident.

Rampart Area officers Ted Maillet and Richard Adame on patrol found the girl at a service station when the attendant flagged them and pointed out the child who was standing in the station office.

Maillet said the girl was in good spirits and had been released by her abductor about five minutes earlier.

The girl said that the man had told her he was her "baby sitter," when he took her from the Arcadia home, Maillet reported.

After driving the girl into Los Angeles, they stayed for some time in an apartment or hotel, and then he told her to go to the gas station after she was let out of his car.

When found, the girl was wearing her own pajamas, but had on over them a man's light nylon jacket and was wearing a pair of men's black socks on her feet, Maillet said.

Although the girl said she had never seen the man before, she said he was of medium height, slender build, with light color skin and dark hair, Maillet reported. This crime is related to others in the Southern California area. He also said they hope to have a composite drawing to release to the press sometime Friday, but that they are not pushing for it because of the traumatic experience the girl has undergone. He said they will wait to question her again because she is "still a little shook up."

Witch experts consulted in case

By BRANDON BAILEY
Staff Writer

More details of the wide-ranging Night Stalker investigation were revealed Friday, with disclosures that authorities consulted experts in witchcraft last month and that detectives have seized ammunition that may link several killings to chief suspect Richard Ramirez.

Ramirez, 25, is facing charges stemming from two murders and a robbery. Although police and sheriff's detectives have implicated him in a total of 15 brutal slayings, Ramirez reportedly has denied committing any of the Night Stalker crimes.

Ramirez's next court appearance is Sept. 27. Sources said Friday that authorities are likely to file more charges before then, perhaps as early as next week.

Investigators from the Night Stalker task force consulted some self-described witches last month to learn about satanic rituals and the differences between devil worship and witchcraft, the Star-News has learned.

Symbols such as inverted five-pointed stars, which are used in satanism, were found at some of the murder scenes, investigative

Please see STALKER,
Page A-5

Stalker: Witch experts consulted

Continued from Page A-1

sources have said.

In late summer, detectives discussed some of the symbols and asked about their meaning in interviews with at least three people who describe themselves as believers in benign witchcraft, it was learned.

Sheriff's Department spokesmen had no comment on efforts to research satanic aspects of the Night Stalker case. Investigators are continuing to characterize the satanic aspects as secondary factors in the case, rather than primary motivation for the killings.

Some type of occult ritual may have been involved in the March 27 murders of a husband and wife in Whittier, where the killer cut out the eyes of a 44-year-old woman, according to sources who asked not to be identified.

Sources previously had confirmed that, in August, authorities checked an area of La Habra Heights where a satanic cult was rumored to meet. In that area, detectives found a footprint from an uncommon brand of tennis shoe that matched footprints left at some of the murder scenes.

On the day Ramirez returned to Los Angeles from Arizona by bus, detectives searched a downtown terminal and found a distinctive type of ammunition — the type used in four Night Stalker killings, the Daily News of Los Angeles reported Friday.

Investigators believe they can prove that Ramirez at one time had possession of the .25-caliber bullets, which were seized from the Los Angeles Greyhound bus terminal a few hours after Ramirez was arrested on Aug. 31,

unidentified sources.

Documents filed in a Texas court, where investigators obtained warrants to search the homes of Ramirez's relatives, indicate that a distinctive type of ammunition with pink-colored primer, or packing material, was used in several assaults and murders.

While investigators have reported finding one handgun in Tijuana, they are still searching for others. The Texas search warrant describes four different handguns sought by detectives, though apparently none were found.

Detectives in the Night Stalker task force have investigated 35 separate incidents, involving a total of 47 victims, according to a list that was filed in court when detectives obtained warrants to search the homes of Ramirez's father and sister in El Paso, Texas.

The court filing doesn't mention a 1984 murder which Los Angeles police linked to Ramirez through a fingerprint left at the victim's apartment. The list, prepared by sheriff's detectives, begins chronologically with a Feb. 8, 1985, assault on a 21-year-old woman in Whittier.

Although local police later concluded the Night Stalker wasn't responsible for four of the cases, which involved murder and attempted murder, authorities confirmed that as many as 23 separate incidents — including 14 murders committed this year — are believed to be related.

Authorities have withheld information about eight remaining cases on the list. The victims in these unspecified crimes are listed as four children, three elderly women and a

ARCADIA TRIBUNE

ARCADIA TRIBUNE

6/30/85

Woman found dead in Arcadia

Homicide detectives were still without a motive Friday evening in the brutal slaying of Patty Elaine Higgins, a 32-year-old schoolteacher, found dead in the bedroom of her modest Arcadia duplex Friday morning.

The victim was apparently killed sometime around midnight, said Arcadia Police Lt. Richard Honaker.

Ms. Higgins' body was discovered at 9 a.m. by a workman

from a construction site next door to her house at 665 Naomi Ave., about a half-mile south of the Santa Anita Fashion Park. The workman had come to use the telephone and found an outside door ajar, according to police.

The woman's clothing indicated she had been preparing for bed at the time of the attack, Honaker said. She had been stabbed several times and also

possibly beaten. An autopsy would have to be performed to establish the exact cause of death, he added.

"We haven't got much on this one," Honaker told reporters. "She doesn't appear to have been sexually assaulted, and there's no evidence of forced entry or ransacking, he said.

Honaker said the victim was a special education teacher for the Monrovia school district, and apparently kept to herself.

"The quiet sort," he said. "No background of drugs or anything like that."

Guardian Angels leader arrested

Associated Press

Guardian Angels founder Curtis Sliwa, arrested for blocking traffic in a drug-infested Hollywood neighborhood, said from a jail cell Sunday that residents were fed up with police inability to curb crime.

The Guardian Angels were called in to patrol the area last week by residents dissatisfied with police response to an escalation in drug trafficking, Sliwa said.

Sliwa, 31, and fellow Guardian Angels Wayne Villafranco and Scott McKeown were booked for investigation of dis-

obeying a police officer, Sgt. Jim Lowry said. Bail was set at \$500 each and Sliwa said he was unable to make bail.

"We just happened to run into the wrong cop at the wrong time," Sliwa said in a telephone interview from jail.

Calling the neighborhood "truly a mutants nest of drug dealing," Sliwa said the presence of 30 Guardian Angels was designed to put the drug traffickers on notice.

"They (drug dealers) have saturated the neighborhood," he said. "We're talking heavy drugs — heroin, cocaine and

PCP. They are using the young kids in that block to be the runners. The residents have had it.

"If it takes arresting us so the drug dealers get the same treatment, then so be it. We consider this the first blow of the bugle to get rid of drug pushers in Los Angeles."

Lowry said the three Guardian Angels were blocking traffic on busy Melrose Avenue at Manhattan Place.

"They were blocking traffic and throwing brochures at passing cars," Lowry said. "Officers asked them to get out of the street, but Mr. Sliwa said he

needed the publicity and wanted to be arrested. We effected an arrest."

Fliers reading, "Warning all dealers. Out of this Neighborhood. Off the block ... or else," were passed out to motorists and pedestrians entering the neighborhood.

"We told the police last Thursday we would be shutting down the street," Sliwa said. "For the first two hours, the police didn't interfere."

"We weren't denying access, we were just passing out literature."

Ramirez's sister upset with orders

Associated Press

"Night Stalker" defendant Richard Ramirez is being held "like a prisoner in communist China," deprived of family visits on orders of the attorney defending him in the murder case, his sister said.

Ramirez, 25, is accused of killing one of 14 murder victims linked to the Night Stalker in Southern California, and is named in an arrest warrant for investigation of another in San Francisco.

The killer is believed to have attacked at least 21 other people in Southern California during a six-month spree of violence this year.

Also on Wednesday, Stalker victim William Carns, 29, was released from Mission Community Hospital in Mission Viejo. He and his girlfriend were attacked Aug. 27 around 2:40 a.m. The woman was beaten and raped in the last attack before Ramirez was arrested Aug. 31.

"My brother is being held like a prisoner in communist China, where you don't have any rights," Ramirez's sister, Rosa Flores, said Tuesday in El Paso, Texas. "Like any other prison-



RICHARD RAMIREZ

... deprived of family visits

er, he should be able to have his closest relatives visit him."

Deputy Public Defender Allen Adashek, who obtained a court order requiring his permission for people to visit Ramirez, said he never meant to exclude relatives.

Deputy Public Defender Henry Hall said the restriction was designed to protect Ramirez from the general jail population. Hall said he heard there had been threats against Ramirez or "echoes from lockup: 'Let us at him.'"

Flores also claimed that investigators had seized some of her own jewelry, besides items mailed by her brother, when they executed a search warrant at her El Paso home two weeks ago.



Police examine possible Stalker link to other crimes

By BRANDON BAILEY
Special Correspondent

Detectives in the Night Stalker investigation are looking for evidence in a host of crimes reported throughout Los Angeles County, from Pico Rivera to Altadena, according to court documents.

In addition to 15 murders that have been publicly identified by police and sheriff's detectives in the multi-agency Night Stalker task force, a Texas court filing indicates authorities have been investigating as many as 21 other crimes, reported since February, that may be linked to the so-called Night Stalker.

Authorities previously said the task force is looking into a number of assaults and other crimes. The court filing represents the first time a complete list of cases has been made public.

The three-page, typed list is dated Sept. 2 and titled "Victims of the Night Stalker."

The list is among documents filed last week in El Paso County Court, where sheriff's detectives obtained warrants to search the homes of two relatives of Night Stalker suspect Richard Ramirez.

Ramirez, a 25-year-old drifter, has been formally charged in

connection with two murders in Monterey Park and San Francisco and one robbery in Monrovia.

Police have identified him as the suspect in other Night Stalker crimes, including murders and brutal assaults that terrorized suburban residents of Los Angeles County this year.

A sworn affidavit included in the documents states that detectives sought satanic messages or drawings and human body parts — specifically, eyeballs cut out from a Whittier woman believed to be one of the Night Stalker's earliest murder victims.

One of the crimes on the Texas list is a May 30 assault on

a 40-year-old Burbank woman who was raped and robbed in her home.

Investigators searched the homes of Ramirez's relatives for jewelry and other items stolen from the woman's residence, according to the court file.

Also listed are eight crimes against children younger than 10.

Investigators previously acknowledged they were looking into four cases in which young children were kidnapped from suburban communities and molested before being dropped off in Los Angeles.

In addition to those four cases — reported in Los Angeles, Arcadia, Montebello and Monterey Park — the remaining four cases involved a 6-year-old girl from Pico Rivera, an 8-year-old girl from Rosemead, a 6-year-old girl from Los Angeles and an 8-year-old boy from Los Angeles.

to the Night Stalker: 14 murders, the bludgeoning of a 16-year-old Sierra Madre girl, the robbery of an elderly Monrovia woman and the rape of a 64-year-old Monterey Park woman.

In another development Thursday, Manuel Barraza, a

Texas lawyer retained by Ramirez's family, publicly criticized the Los Angeles County Public Defender's office for its handling of the case.

Barraza complained that Deputy Public Defender Allen Adashek has allowed detectives to question Ramirez and has ignored Barraza's offer of assistance in the defense, wire services reported.

The Texas attorney, who has said he would handle offers for book and movie rights to Ramirez's story, reportedly charged that Adashek is now trying to field those offers.

● Interceptions harmful to Arcadia in 17-12 setback;

● Muir defense stalls Monrovia, 26-0. See Page A-6

Arcadia Topics

Classified ads: 876-6331

A FOOTHILL INTER-CITY NEWSPAPER

Circulation: 446-6133 Editorial: 446-0111

20 PAGES 2 SECTIONS

SUNDAY, SEPT. 11, 1988

Weather: Mostly clear

Low clouds in the morning becoming mostly clear in the afternoon. Partly cloudy tonight and Wednesday. Highs in the 70s, with lows 52 to 60.

— Full report, Page A-2

STAR-NEWS

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PASADENA, CALIFORNIA, TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 1985

Ramirez's kin may sell story

By **BRANDON BAILEY**
Staff Writer

The family of Night Stalker suspect Richard Ramirez is considering paying for his defense by selling the rights to Ramirez's story, but a 1983 state law says profits from such a contract may belong to the victims.

Ramirez's family still hopes to find a private criminal defense lawyer who will take over the case from the Los Angeles County Public Defender's office, Texas attorney Manuel Barraza said Monday.

"They will be seeking a private attorney. We're trying to get one as quickly as we can," Barraza said by telephone from his office in El Paso.

Ramirez, a 25-year-old native of El Paso, has been charged with murder, robbery, burglary and sexual assault in connection with the Night Stalker crime spree. He is expected to enter a plea Sept. 27 in Los Angeles Municipal Court.

Barraza, who was retained by

Please see **RAMIREZ**,
Page A-5

Ramirez: Family seeks attorney

Continued from Page A-1

Ramirez's parents, isn't licensed to practice law in California.

He acknowledged that the family is "financially strapped" and will have difficulty paying a private lawyer over the course of a trial that is expected to be lengthy.

Ramirez's parents are open to the idea of donations or financial offers for book or movie rights, Barraza said. They hope to find an attorney who will agree to work without advance payment, he added.

"Because they are so financially strapped, any suggestion would help," the lawyer said. Neighbors have contributed about \$150 to help the family, but Barraza said there haven't been any offers yet by producers or publishers.

If Ramirez is convicted, a California law probably would prevent him from collecting money for his story, a top official in the state attorney general's office told the Star-News.

Under the 1983 law, if a notorious criminal signs a contract for his or her story, the Attorney General can have the proceeds impounded in a court-administered trust, said Chief Assistant Attorney General Stephen White.

The trust would be divided among the criminal's victims, added White, who heads the criminal division in the attorney general's office.

The law was enacted in an uproar over the case of Dan White, a former San Francisco Supervisor who killed Mayor George Moscone and Supervisor Harvey Milk. Legislators feared Dan White would profit from signing a movie contract, although the contract never was signed.

While the law has never been tested, White in the attorney general's office said, "it would clearly apply to this (Night Stalker) case."

The law affects only convicted criminals. If Ramirez signs a contract and later is found guilty, White said any proceeds could be seized retroactively.

It's not clear whether the California law could affect income received by Ramirez's family, which lives in Texas. "I don't want to speculate on that," White said.

After spending last week in Los Angeles, where he exchanged barbed criticism with Deputy Public Defender Allen Adashek, Barraza said he has begun speaking with several unidentified Los Angeles attorneys in the hope of recruiting one to defend Ramirez.

Ramirez's sister, Rosa Flores, returned to El Paso Monday after visiting her brother in Los Angeles County jail over the weekend, Barraza said.

During his own visit, Barraza met with Ramirez and Los Angeles reporters, while complaining that Adashek refused his offer of assistance.

After an initial visit at the jail, Ramirez refused to meet with Barraza later in the week, Barraza said.

Adashek, though generally keeping a low profile, last week criticized Barraza for holding impromptu press conferences and discussing Ramirez's emotional reaction to the charges against him. Adashek couldn't be reached for comment Monday.

Municipal Judge Elva Soper appointed the Public Defender's office to the case last month, when it appeared that Ramirez, a transient, had no resources to pay for his defense. Police say they believe Ramirez, who is described by friends as a frequent drug user, made his living as a burglar.

The procedure for changing to a private attorney is common, requiring only routine approval by the judge.

While Barraza charged that Adashek is ignoring Ramirez's interests in pursuit of lucrative book or movie rights, Adashek has responded by noting that Barraza is the one who invited offers.

A spokeswoman for People magazine, which has covered the Night Stalker case and which has paid for interviews in other unusual cases, said the magazine isn't negotiating for rights to the Ramirez story.

Penelope Karageorge, contacted in New York, said the magazine has no set policy on purchasing stories. She declined to predict whether the magazine might make an offer in the future.

Officials at the National Enquirer, a weekly newspaper also known to pay for unusual stories, didn't return a phone call Monday.

ools?

Judge slaps gag order on Night Stalker case

By Nancy Hill-Holtzman
Herald staff writer

In an effort to squelch pretrial publicity, a Municipal Court judge yesterday slapped a comprehensive gag order on the Night Stalker case, forbidding attorneys, police, witnesses and public officials from discussing what they know about accused killer Richard Ramirez.

The order was issued by Municipal Judge Elva Soper at the request of Ramirez's attorney, Deputy Public Defender Allen R. Adashek.

As Soper read the order, a jovial Ramirez smiled broadly at the scattered onlookers in Division 30 of the Criminal Courts Building. The 25-year-old El Paso, Texas, drifter laughed several times, his body gyrating as though dancing to a tune only he could hear.

Deputy District Attorney P. Philip

Stalker/A-9, Col. 3

Defense wins gag order in Night Stalker case

Stalker/Continued from A-3

Halpin said he agreed with the severe restrictions on release of information about the alleged Night Stalker.

"I look for this case to make significant inroads on the First Amendment falderal that goes on between the press and the courts," Halpin said outside court.

The prosecutor predicted the extensive publicity in the Night Stalker case would lead to "policing those members of the media who will not police themselves."

Late yesterday afternoon, Halpin carried 400 copies of the gag order to be distributed to officials involved in the investigation.

Before outlining the sweeping gag order, Soper noted the "scope, amount and type of publicity" in the Ramirez case. "It is difficult if not impossible for this defendant to have a fair trial."

Soper also sealed attorneys' written documentation specifying how news reports have jeopardized the case, so it is unknown which information is considered most damaging to Ramirez's fair trial rights.

Because Ramirez is suspected of murders committed in San Francisco and Orange County and stories appeared statewide, Soper said, a change of venue is "not (an) entirely satisfactory" way to ensure fair trial.

Though thus far charged with two murders — William Doi, 65, of Monterey Park and Peter Pan, 66, of San Francisco — Ramirez is a suspect in at least 15 killings.

"The court recognizes the role of a free press," Soper said. "However, it is the obligation of this court to guarantee the defendant a fair trial."

The prosecution and the defense have criticized El Paso attorney Manuel Barraza, hired by Ramirez's family to represent their interests,

for public statements about the defendant.

On Friday Adashek obtained a court order precluding any other attorney from visiting Ramirez unless Adashek was present.

Saturday
September 28, 1985

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LOS ANGELES HERALD

 773

EXAMINER

14 murders now charged to Ramirez

By Nancy Kili-Holtzman
Herald staff writer

Spectators jammed the courtroom yesterday to watch accused "Night Stalker" Richard Ramirez be arraigned on 68 felony charges, including 14 murders, but Ramirez was a no-show.

Later, in a television news interview, his sister said Ramirez wants to plead guilty because he thinks he will not receive a fair trial and that his life is threatened. She also said his attorney was aware of his wishes and prevented him from appearing in court yesterday.

Stalker/A-6, Col. 2

Suspected Night Stalker skips big date in court

Stalker/Continued from A-1

"For the record, Mr. Ramirez is in the lockup and the proceedings are being taped into the lockup for his benefit," said Municipal Judge Elva Soper.

The perfunctory arraignment was punctuated by piercing shrieks from the lockup area, but no one in authority would say if the cries came from the 25-year-old Ramirez, or say why he was absent from the public proceeding.

"Due to the extensive publicity, he says he cannot receive a fair trial and wants to (plead) guilty," said his sister, Rosa Flores in a late-night interview on KCBS. She said she came from El Paso, Texas, to be near her brother, and that she was relaying the message from him.

The request to keep Ramirez out of the courtroom was made by his attorney, Deputy Public Defender Alan Adashek, according to Chief Deputy District Attorney Gilbert Garcetti.

However, Adashek refused to

say whether his client's behavior or security concerns prompted his request. He also refused comment on Flores' statements, according to KCBS.

The station said it could not be confirmed if the sister visited Ramirez or if the message was genuine.

Soper and Deputy District Attorney J. Philip Halpin also refused to comment on the arraignment that originally was set for 10:30 a.m. but was postponed without explanation until midafternoon.

Municipal Presiding Judge Malcolm Mackey said a judge may allow a defendant to be arraigned in absentia for security reasons or "if he acts belligerent, or acts wild or has mental problems (or other) bizarre behavior.

"Security did not appear to be a concern yesterday. In contrast to Ramirez's last court appearance, spectators did not have to pass through metal detectors to gain admittance.

District Attorney Ira Reiner announced the filing of 60 new felony

charges, including 13 murders, yesterday morning at a press conference.

Ramirez initially was charged with one count of murder and seven other felonies, which were incorporated into the new 84-page complaint filed against the drifter.

"Our assessment of the evidence is complete," said Reiner. "This is the case. We have charged Richard Ramirez with a total of 14 murders, five attempted murders, various assorted burglaries, robberies, kidnaps and rapes involving women and children as young as 6 years old."

In addition to 14 murders and five attempted murders, Ramirez allegedly committed 19 burglaries, six robberies, seven rapes, five acts of oral copulation, seven acts of sodomy, three lewd acts on children and two child kidnappings.

Ramirez has yet to enter a formal plea to the charges. At Adashek's request, Soper continued the case until Oct. 17.

Citing a gag order, Reiner refused to specify the common thread that has convinced prosecutors Ramirez is the Night Stalker.

Special circumstances have been alleged in each of the 14 murder charges, making Ramirez liable for the death penalty, if convicted.

T H E O R A N G E C O U N T Y

Register

SUNDAY

SEPTEMBER 15, 1985

75 CENTS



Al Gutierrez/For the Register

The former home of Richard Ramirez, the man charged in the so-called 'night stalker' attacks, lies in a quiet El Paso neighborhood.

THIEF: Some knew suspect as troubled, though harmless

FROM A1

lem involved his choice of friends. Ramirez's continual use of marijuana was a source of consternation to his father, a 58-year-old railroad-yard laborer originally from Mexico, according to old friends.

"His parents did not want him to mess with drugs and he did. He ran away from home (and) I fed him," said Hector Sotello, 27, of El Paso, who was arrested with Ramirez for the 1979 marijuana offense.

Sotello said Ramirez broke into houses to support his drug habit, always bragging about the crimes afterward.

"He would tell every detail and say how easy it was," Sotello said.

Ramirez stole so much that he earned a nickname from friends: "Ricky the Robon," which is Spanish for "Ricky the Thief." Friends who saw unfamiliar knickknacks in his home referred to them jokingly as "Ricky Rob specials," Sotello said.

His penchant for thievery got him into hot water at the Holiday Inn near his home, where he worked as a cleaner until he was fired for breaking into rooms, Sotello said.

After becoming involved in a fight with a guest at the inn, he decided to learn self-defense, according to Sotello.

"He had two black eyes after that (and) started taking karate," Sotello said.

Between stints in El Paso, Ra-

ing beer. Sometimes he'd hang with this older Mexican dude, but mostly he was by himself."

Squatting on a curb on San Julian Street in the heart of Skid Row, the young man passed a marijuana joint to a friend who had donned a lint-littered, forest-green ski cap.

"I shot dope with him once — I ain't gonna say what kind of dope — but he never tried to kill me," the friend said.

In the San Francisco area, though, he had a somewhat different image.

"He's always been very sweet and we trusted him," said Deleen Gregg of Lompoc, who said she has known Ramirez for the past half-dozen years.

The Richard Ramirez she knew spent most of his time in front of the television set. But both she and her mother-in-law, Donna Louise Myers of San Pablo, admit he also had a dark, eccentric side.

For one thing, Myers and others said, his drug use drastically increased. From marijuana, he graduated to PCP and LSD. Then, last year, he began injecting cocaine.

At about the same time, other acquaintances say, he began carrying a gun and talking about the devil.

He drew pentagrams — five-pointed stars — on his arms and stomach, Myers said, and told her he believed Satan would watch

Ramirez began making the 700-mile drive to Southern California, where he spent time with his eldest brother, Julian, now 37, said Sotello.

Julian, like Richard, has a lengthy criminal history involving mostly petty crimes. He was arrested for theft in El Paso as early as 1971 and as recently as 1983 in Los Angeles. In the 1983 incident, he allegedly stole a grocery bag containing baby food and diapers from the trunk of a car, California court records show.

Meanwhile, Ramirez's friendships back home crumbled. Friends like Sotello said they were finding that Ramirez was such a prolific thief that he stole even from them.

One former neighborhood friend recalls catching him in the act of pocketing two cassette tapes. Sotello, too, said he discovered six months after the fact that Ramirez had lifted his truck stereo and cassettes.

"I went to talk to him and said I knew he ripped me off and that I never wanted to see him again," Sotello said.

After closing the door on old friendships, Ramirez tired of El Paso and moved in with his brother Julian in East Los Angeles. Rosa Flores, their sister, said "Richie" lived with Julian until two years ago, when he moved out after the two argued over a car repair.

Once he moved to California around 1980, he divided his time between Los Angeles and San Francisco. In Southern California, he would stay with his brother, live in Skid Row flophouses or sleep in stolen cars. Other times, he visited friends in the East Bay area of San Francisco.

In Los Angeles, as in El Paso, he had frequent brushes with the law. He was arrested for petty theft in Pasadena, for purse snatching and illegal dice shooting in Los Angeles. He spent six weeks in jail early this year for stealing a Toyota station wagon in Monterey Park.

He rarely bailed himself out of jail, reports show. Instead — though acquaintances claim he had money to burn — he chose to spend days, weeks or months behind bars.

And when he wasn't in jail, he often could be found on the pungent, filthy streets of Skid Row in Los Angeles.

"He came in here every other day," said Alejandra Mesa, a cashier at the Fat Brat on Fifth Street.

"He would always order a No. 4 (three eggs and three hot cakes)."

"Yeah, he used to hang around here," added a 30-year-old resident of the district who refused to give his name. "I used to see him on the stair wall or sitting on a box on the corner smoking reefer and drink-

over him. Even so, San Francisco-area friends continued to trust him so much that they often asked him to baby-sit their children. And Myers said she still cannot believe Ramirez may be the "night stalker." In fact, she recalls, she told him he didn't "have the guts to kill anyone" after he asked at her Bay area home in mid-August whether he resembled a composite of the "night stalker" that was being shown on television.

"We laughed about it," the 53-year-old grandmother said.

"He's always been real nice," Gregg said. "To me, I still can't believe he's done all this."

But police have an entirely different view of the wan and hollow Ramirez, whose criminal "rap sheet" until recently bore no mention of violent crime.

They believe he was capable of the Whittier attack, for instance, in which the brown eyes of a middle-aged woman were sliced out. Or of the Monterey Park attack on a wheelchair-bound stroke victim who was thumb-cuffed, raped and sodomized. Or of the attack in Monrovia on an 84-year-old woman who was bludgeoned to death in her tidy home.

Ramirez left his mark on the "night stalker" crime scenes, police claim.

His fingerprints and footprints allegedly were found at some sites. Satanic pentagrams — just like the one he inked on his left forearm — were scrawled on some victims' walls. Victims' homes were entered with the professional efficiency only a career burglar would have acquired, police say.

This and other evidence, authorities say, has convinced them that Ramirez is their man.

Once, a source close to the case was asked to gauge that certainty on a scale of one to 10. "Twenty," came the blunt reply.

But Ramirez — while he has refused repeated requests for interviews — has steadfastly denied to his family and attorneys that he was responsible for the "night stalker" crimes.

Manuel Barraza, an El Paso attorney for the family, said he is gathering evidence that may show Ramirez was out of state during several of the killings.

His family in El Paso holds out hope that their "Richie" will be exonerated.

"My parents feel sorry for all the families of the victims (but) we don't believe he did it," said brother Roberto from Tucson, who was in El Paso recently, comforting his parents.

"Only God knows whether he did it," Roberto added. "I don't think he did it. If there is justice in this world, I hope he gets it."

Stalker Suspect Ramirez Charged in 13 More Deaths

By ROBERT W. STEWART, *Times Staff Writer*

In an unusual procedure that excluded him from court, Night Stalker suspect Richard Ramirez was arraigned Friday on 13 new murder counts and 47 additional felony charges, including attempted murder, rape and lewd conduct with children.

The new charges bring to 15 the number of killings in which Ramirez is formally accused—14 in Los Angeles County and one in San Francisco.

Because the Los Angeles County district attorney's office has alleged special circumstances in each of the killings in its jurisdiction, the 25-year-old drifter from El Paso, if convicted, could face as many as 14 death sentences.

Besides the 14 murders, Ramirez now stands accused of 54 other serious crimes in Los Angeles County. They are 5 attempted

murders, 22 sexual assaults, 19 burglaries, 6 robberies and 2 kidnappings. The sex crimes include seven rapes and three lewd acts involving children as young as 6 years old.

"Our assessment of the evidence is complete," Dist. Atty. Ira Reiner said at a news conference at the Criminal Courts Building. "This is the case as we expect it will proceed to the preliminary hearing and later to trial."

The attacks in which Ramirez is charged occurred between June, 1984, and last month, according to a statement released by Reiner. The district attorney said he could not discuss the evidence supporting the charges, citing a gag order imposed by Los Angeles Municipal Judge Elva R. Soper.

Ramirez, who is being held with-

Please see **RAMIREZ**, Page 30

RAMIREZ: 13 More Murder Charges Filed

Continued from Page 1

out bail in Los Angeles County Jail, did not enter pleas to the charges Friday. At the request of Ramirez's attorney, Deputy Public Defender Allen Adashek, Soper ordered Ramirez returned to court Oct. 17 to plead to the charges.

Ramirez did not appear in court Friday under a procedure worked out during a closed conference in Soper's chambers. Instead, Ramirez listened to the brief court proceedings over a loudspeaker placed near his holding cell behind Soper's courtroom.

Neither Adashek nor the prosecutor in the case, Deputy Dist. Atty. P. Philip Halpin, would explain why Ramirez was excluded. Both men declined to comment on the case in any detail.

Disturbance Heard

A disturbance in the holding cell area was clearly audible to spectators as Adashek waived the formal reading of the new complaint. However, neither Adashek nor sheriff's deputies would say whether the shouts came from Ramirez.

Chief Deputy Dist. Atty. Gilbert I. Garcetti said he could not comment specifically on the proceedings in Soper's court Friday.

However, he explained that a judge has the legal right to exclude a defendant from court as long as the defendant can hear the proceedings. That can occur even over the defendant's objection, Garcetti said, as long as the request for the exclusion is made by the defendant's attorney.

All of the killings with which Ramirez is now charged had been previously linked by authorities to the serial killer dubbed the Night Stalker.

However, three sexual assaults named in the new complaint had not been connected to the killer. Those incidents, in which homes were burglarized and two women and a 6-year-old girl were raped and sodomized, occurred in May, June and July in Burbank, Arcadia Park.

From Mission Viejo to S.F.

The Night Stalker terrorized communities from Mission Viejo to San Francisco earlier this year by entering homes late at night, usually through open doors or windows, and assaulting and sometimes killing the occupants.

The assailant occasionally

Los Angeles Times

Wednesday, September 18, 1985

'Night stalker' a big topic at coffee shop

On the way to work Monday, I stopped for breakfast at a coffee shop in Santa Ana and sat at the counter beside two men in dark blue coveralls. One man was husky and middle-aged with a puffy, weary-looking face; "Al" was stitched in red thread over his pocket. His partner — they were plumbers on their way to a job — was younger and blond with a weight lifter's shoulders; his pocket said "David."

"This 'night stalker' is a wild thing, huh?"

David said.

Al was finishing fried eggs, ham and double hashbrowns and reading the sports section. "The Angels beat the Tigers, 7-1, which is something you wouldn't have seen last year," he said. "The Angels don't have the consistent hitting."

"Somebody always comes through," David said, working on a poached egg. "Rupert or Reggie or Downing or somebody."

"Reggie's having a helluva year," Al said. "For a guy 39, 40."

"Yeah, an old-timer," David said and nudged his partner with his elbow. "This 'night stalker,' he just picks people at random? It's bizarre. It's like ... I don't know."

A I stuffed potatoes in his mouth and didn't look up from his sports section. "You get wackos like this. Whaddaya gonna do? I have a gun and a dog. But when your number's up ... like with these plane crashes."

The waitress, a redheaded woman of about 40, took my order, then poured more coffee for Al. "I live in Mission Viejo where those people were attacked and it scares me to death," she said. Al



**BOB
EMMERS**

OC residents react to a brutal crime



Chris Covatta/The Register

Customers crowd the Nail Apron hardware store in Mission Viejo to buy locks for doors and windows once thought safe.

A 'stalker' transforms a quiet street

By Shawn Hubler
and Jim Carlton
The Register

Police today continued the search for a 1976 orange Toyota station wagon seen by witnesses near the site of the most recent "night stalker" attack in Mission Viejo.

Los Angeles County sheriff's officials said late Monday that the car, stolen Saturday in central Los Angeles, bears license plates 482 RTS.

Residents on Chrisanta Drive in Mission Viejo said they saw a man fitting the description of the suspect in the case driving the

car through their community several days before the attack Sunday on Bill Carns and his girlfriend.

Los Angeles County sheriff's deputy Joe Garza said anyone seeing the car should consider the driver armed and dangerous and should call the local police.

The car's sighting was among hundreds of reports that rico-

cheted through the tidy middle-income neighborhood where, less than three hours after midnight on Sunday, a man believed responsible for 14 recent killings shot Carns, 29, in the head.

His girlfriend, also 29, was sexually assaulted by a suspect authorities describe as slender and curly-haired, 25 to 30 years old and about 6 feet tall.

Police say the "night stalker" — also referred to as the "walk-in killer" and "valley intruder" — has bad, gapped teeth and is tanned or perhaps Hispanic.

Carns remained in critical condition today at Mission Community Hospital.

His neighbors, who until Sunday said they had known little about one another, began to talk as they had never talked before.

There were rumors. Leann Janovick said a man fitting the description of the "night stalker" had come to her door dressed in pink and peddling dried fruit for charity.

Please see 'STALKER' A10

■ **VICTIMS:** National story hits the North Dakota of Bill Carns/A10

■ **PROBE:** Investigators didn't alert state's dentists to stalker/A10

■ **CASE EXPANDS:** The killer may have molested four children/A10

■ **BOB EMMERS:** 'Night stalker' is a big topic at the coffee shop/B1

'Stalker' story front-page news in hometown of OC victim

By Shawn Hubler
The Register

The day Bill Carns was shot in the head by a gap-toothed serial killer, the headlines in his hometown North Dakota newspaper ran to wheat and Willie Nelson.

"Montana Wheat Harvest Dismal," read the front page of the Williston, N.D., Herald. "Willie Nelson Learns About Farm Situation" said another, announcing the singer's appearance at a state fair.

But even in Williston — popula-

tion 17,000 — Carns' attacker was not ignored. Though editors had no inkling their national story soon would strike home, there was a short line on the front page index.

"Police Search For Night Stalker," it said. "See Story on Page 5A."

Now, of course, the "night stalker" story is front-page news for the Williston Herald. Carns, who been in California less than a year before the attack occurred, was born and raised in this isolated oil town, just east of the Montana

border.

Rex Hartland of Fargo, N.D., who had been a co-worker and friend of Carns, described the 29-year-old engineer as a "happy, outgoing" man who reveled in the intricacies of electronics engineering. Both men worked in the Fargo office of Burroughs Corp.

Carns, the son of a Williston appliance repairman, designed electrical circuits for sound systems as a hobby. But his professional goal was to get into the computer engineering design, and he felt his work in Fargo never would allow

him to meet that goal, Hartland said.

Thus, when Burroughs offered to transfer Carns from Fargo to a better-paying job in Orange County, he leaped at the opportunity, Hartland said. Not only would he improve his job description — he would become a product support engineer and troubleshooter — but he would also get to experience what he and Hartland jokingly called "the California Adventure."

He sold his house in Fargo and brought with him his girlfriend —

a "nice, conservative" 29-year-old North Dakotan from Bismark whom he'd been seeing for about two years, said his brother-in-law Ken Knodel of Bismark.

The girlfriend, whom authorities have not identified, was in public relations, Knodel said. Like Carns, she got a job at Burroughs' Orange County division, working in Human Resources.

They liked to go sightseeing in their new habitat, Knodel said.

Today, just months after putting a down payment on their

modest tract home on Chrisanta Drive, Carns was in critical condition at Mission Community Hospital. His girlfriend, sexually assaulted by the killer, is living under the protection of the Orange County Sheriff's Department.

"The reaction here is hostility," said Knodel, in a phone interview from Bismark. "They never seem to find guys like that, and if they do, nothing ever seems to happen to them. They get off scott free. Myself, I'd like to get a hold of the guy that did this thing to Bill."

LA authorities missed chance to warn state's dentists about 'stalker'

By Susan Peterson
and Lennie La Guire
The Register

The Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department missed a chance to warn California's 14,000 dentists to watch out for the so-called "night stalker" suspect with bad teeth.

And now, the sheriff's department, the chief investigating agency in the case, says it is up to other police agencies to notify dentists in their areas.

"We are here to handle LA and that's it," said Los Angeles Sheriff's Sgt. Steve Finley. "It means that every agency is handling their own area."

That is one example of how authorities have chosen to conduct the search for the attacker, believed responsible for a series of brazen murders and assaults from Arcadia to San Francisco.



'Night stalker' suspect
LAPD artist's drawing

self. "We've been wondering why we haven't heard from them," Executive Director Dale Redig said.



'STALKER': Neighborhood's calm shattered by intruder

FROM A1

He had curly hair, "strange eyes" and skin that was "tanned, or sort of different-colored," she said, and he wore "one of those little badges people wear when they're taking donations for charity."

Carleen Paquette, who lives with her parents across the street from Carns' home, had a third-hand account of the attack that she said Carns' girlfriend had given to neighbor Roger Bradshaw, who had passed it along to her father.

Bradshaw and Paquette's father, Jack Darrow, refused comment on the report that the intruder was dressed entirely in black and wore a black baseball cap when he crept into Carns' home.

Wrapped in a towel, the woman ran sobbing across the street to the Bradshaw home, where she reportedly told the Bradshaws she had been brutally beaten and raped, Paquette said.

Charles Prather said his dog Skip went "bananas" around the time of the attack, and he specu-

lation owner who lives on Chrisanta Drive.

"It's a war, frankly."

If so, the war is not confined to Mission Viejo.

Fred Ferguson, 30, a Placentia truck driver, said he is armed and ready for the serial killer.

"I've got a shotgun and I'm keeping it right next to the bed," he said. "Anyone comes through the door, I'm not going to flinch; I'm going to put 'em on the ground."

Ditto for Robert Dunn of Corona, who lives in a yellow house just off the freeway.

Several of the homes in which attacks took place were yellow, investigators said. And most of them were near freeways.

"I got a gun and a Dobie (Dobberman pinscher)," Dunn said Monday. "If he comes into my house, he won't get out alive. I really do hope he breaks into the wrong house one night and somebody blows him away. With our criminal justice system the way it is, it's the only real justice that guy will ever get."

...the attack most recently in Mission Viejo at 2:40 a.m. Sunday, sexually assaulting a woman and critically wounding her boyfriend, who was hospitalized in critical condition.

With the Mission Viejo attack, the Orange County Sheriff's Department joined a growing list of law enforcement agencies handling a piece of the case.

Los Angeles County Sheriff's spokesman Deputy John Brown said eight municipal police forces now are investigating suspected night-stalker cases in their jurisdictions.

Bruce said his department also has called on the Federal Bureau of Investigation to develop a psychological profile of the killer, also known as the "valley intruder" and "walk-in killer."

Despite the array of agencies involved, Bruce said, the investigation has progressed quickly. "No problems so far," every body's been extremely cooperative.

However, when it came to notifying dentists, Binley indicated the other agencies were not in Orange County said they had received no warning to look out for a man who might seek dental work for discolored and missing teeth.

One had not heard of the "night stalker," Dr. Donald Mikroyan of Mountain Valley said he had just returned from vacation and hadn't heard a thing about the police search.

Meanwhile, an official of the California Dental Association said the organization has been standing by to help with anything to help with the search to contact its 14,000 members.



Los Angeles sheriff's investigators said they had been in touch with the association to obtain a mailing list for its 3,500 dentists. But the detectives did not ask and were not told that the association could alert all of its approximately 14,000 members.

Los Angeles sheriff's spokesman Binley said the association had charged the investigators \$50 for every 1,000 address labels they received for county dentists.

But Binley said the investigators contacted the wrong person at the association, a computer office worker who did not know a police request was different from the routine purchase of mailing lists by dental supply companies and other wholesalers.

The association's communications director, who was on vacation, would have explained to police that members' statements could be alerted, Binley said. He added that police should not have been charged \$50 for the address labels of the Los Angeles dentists.

The dental chart mailed to the dentists was obtained from a Los Angeles dentist who treated a man resembling the suspect's description. Inverted goates would not be accurate, except to say the man used a false name and paid cash.

One of the distinguishing characteristics of the suspected "night stalker" is his bad teeth, yellowed and cracked dental work on his upper front teeth, with 3 of 22 on an unlocked window or door.

Eight Los Angeles city police detectives are investigating two other attacks in their territory.

And investigators from four of Los Angeles County's smaller municipal police departments where

...that the serial killer may have escaped into his backyard, but like Ferguson's and Dunn's, caution Cox, who owns a home across the street from Cárdenas, said, "he heard the intruder had worn Army boots."

There was talk, too, of fear and a rising sense of panic in the community where, last Sunday, Cox said, the most recent of a series of burglaries and the toilet "papering of a home down the street."

Gun and hardware stores throughout Orange County reported record sales of firearms and locks.

Stores and windows that until Sunday were "bowed" only by screens were now shut tight and securely bolted.

From San Clemente to Escondido, residents flooded law enforcement hot lines with reports of "night stalker" sightings in this case or that barber shop.

For the first time in the history of the community flanking Christa Drive, there was talk of a Neighborhood Watch.

And the New York-based Guardian Angels, who generally confine their citizen patrols to the inner cities, announced Monday that its members would stand watch over Mission Viejo's tree-lined streets.

"I'd give anything to know why the assailant struck here," Cox said, who said he keeps a loaded gun under his bed.

"Why this street? Why that house? Is he after white people or Asians? Where does he get his money? Why hasn't anyone caught him yet? Where will he strike next?"

At the Nail Appliance hardware store on Crown Valley Parkway, a 35-year-old Mission Viejo girl who identified herself only as Carol said she and her 22-year-old sister stayed up all night Sunday, trembling in fear the intruder would return.

"She had a hammer and I had a baton," Carol said as her mother examined a nearly sold-out lot of sleep with a .357 Magnum by my head, plus a pump shotgun on the ground next to my bed," said Gene Griffith, 60, a retired service

...pressed nervousness at attitudes like Ferguson's and Dunn's, caution Cox, who owns a home across the street from Cárdenas, said, "he heard the intruder had worn Army boots."

Meanwhile—as has occurred in Los Angeles County and near the San Francisco neighborhood where the killer has struck—a gun dealer in Orange County reported an immediate boom in business.

Randy Garrell, president of The Grant Boys Inc. gun store in Costa Mesa, said sales of handguns and shotguns, particularly, were "extraordinary."

California state law makes handgun purchasers wait 15 days before receiving new weapons, but shotguns can be sold over the counter, Garrell noted.

"A shotgun is one of the best defensive guns you can have," Garrell said. "It has a large pattern and it's easy to hit someone at close range."

Garrell said sales started picking up two to three weeks ago with initial news reports of the "night stalker's" existence, but they increased multifold after the man struck in Orange County.

At Montgomery Ward in Mission Viejo Mall, a young man in a business suit called ahead for a shotgun that he wanted for "home protection."

When asked why he was buying the gun, he replied, "Why do you think?"

Law enforcement officials attributed some of the fear to media accounts of the "night stalker's" trail of violence. Garza said "the very method of constant exposure to a subject will create the paranoia."

But the public also needs to know about these things, he said, and the role of informing them falls to the media.

Garza added that people are living under a false sense of security if they think they are completely safe from the "urine problems of Southern California" regardless of where they may live.

"You can't get away from it," he said. "This is a very mobile society and with mobility you're going to have a lot of that."

Kidnap-molestations of 4 children may be linked to killer

Associated Press

...said of a March 20 kidnapping in the Eagle Rock area, five miles north of Los Angeles.

Asked if the child's description of her assailant matched that of the night stalker, Binley said the "valley intruder" and the "walk-in intruder" both replied, "The description is close."

The 8-year-old girl was kidnapped from her bed as her father and continuing to do so to see if there is a connection, Los Angeles authorities said.

Last month, Detective Louis Castillo said, investigators believed the same man who kidnapped her also broke into an Arroyo residence on June 27, took a 6-year-old girl from her bed and molested her.

On Monday, Castillo declined to comment on the probe, referring questions to the night stalker task force headed by the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department.

Two other kidnapping-molestation cases, involving a 6-year-old

girl in Montebello and a 9-year-old boy in Monterey Park, also may be related to the Night Stalker, police in those cities said.

The invader has killed 14 people and maimed others throughout California, authorities say. Sunday's case described the killer as a dark-haired man with a stained, gapped tooth.

In the most recent of the four kidnappings, the Arcadia girl described her abductor's vehicle as a medium-sized brown car with a white top and dirty interior.

BUENA PARK

News

Buena Park, Cypress, La Palma, California, Wednesday, Aug. 28, 1985

Police phones light up as stalker alarm grows

In addition to having some new councilmen, the City of Buena Park will soon have a new county supervisor representing the area.

Supervisor Ralph Clark, on the board since 1970, has decided not to seek re-election next year and the field is already loaded with potential candidates, including Mayor Don Roth of Anaheim and Mayor Jim Beam of Orange.

Clark, the senior member on the board, is a former mayor and councilman from Anaheim, and his announcement over the weekend that he was bowing out came as no surprise.

There had been reports that he would be stepping down in January.

Clark said his health and age (68) were factors in his decision.

Like every community in California, people are nervous and fearful because of the so-called "night stalker" killer, who is now linked to 14 homicides, including deaths in Mission Viejo and San Francisco. Most of the other cases have been in the Southland, including many along the San Gabriel corridor.

The Buena Park Police Department has had a lot of calls about the case and many people are interested in Neighborhood Watch programs. "We're setting up programs as fast as we can,"



Dave Roque
Crossroads

reported Terry Branum, the department's public information officer. "We had four calls today and three yesterday," he said.

The city's access to the free-ways (two) is also of concern. Patrols have been alerted to descriptions of the suspect, who strikes in the early morning hours.

The best precaution, Branum said, is for people to make sure their doors and windows are locked, despite the hot weather. Also, the Neighborhood Watch concept of neighbors looking out for each other, noticing strangers or cars that might be on the street, is a must.

And don't ignore barking dogs at night, it may worth the extra effort to get up and check.

Hats off to Buena Park Photo owner Joe Demane, who came to the aid of another crime victim, the Buena Park Senior Center, which was burglarized several times and assorted items stolen. One of the things taken was a camera.

To make up for the loss a new camera was donated to the seniors by the photo store.

A Buena Park police detail, checking liquor stores to make sure sales are not made to minors, ran into some expected action early Saturday morning in the area of Commonwealth and Dale avenues. Parked across the street, the officers saw two men arguing and yelling at each other.

As the lawmen started running across the street, one of the civilians pulled out a handgun and shot the other man in the left side.

Rushed to hospital was Richard Enriquez, 19, Buena Park, who was last reported in stable condition. Arrested at the scene was Orville Curtis Medalen, 39, also a city resident, who was charged with attempted murder and assault with a deadly weapon.

Graveside services were held Wednesday at Loma Vista Cemetery in Fullerton for Nellie Margaret Skaggs, who died Sunday at the age of 87. Mrs. Skaggs, survived by a daughter Mary Ann Pierce of Santa Maria, three grandchildren and a great grandchild, had been a resident of Buena Park for 47 years. She was a member of the First Baptist Church of Buena Park.

The Buena Park Elks Lodge is coming up with some interesting projects these days. Tonight at 7 p.m., the lodge is having a SWAT team demonstration and exhibit with the public invited. The lodge is located on Melrose Avenue west of Western Avenue.

In November, the lodge is planning a two day chili cookoff. The event is scheduled on Saturday and Sunday, Nov. 16-17. The Saturday event will involve community organizations and on Sunday a sanctioned event will be held.

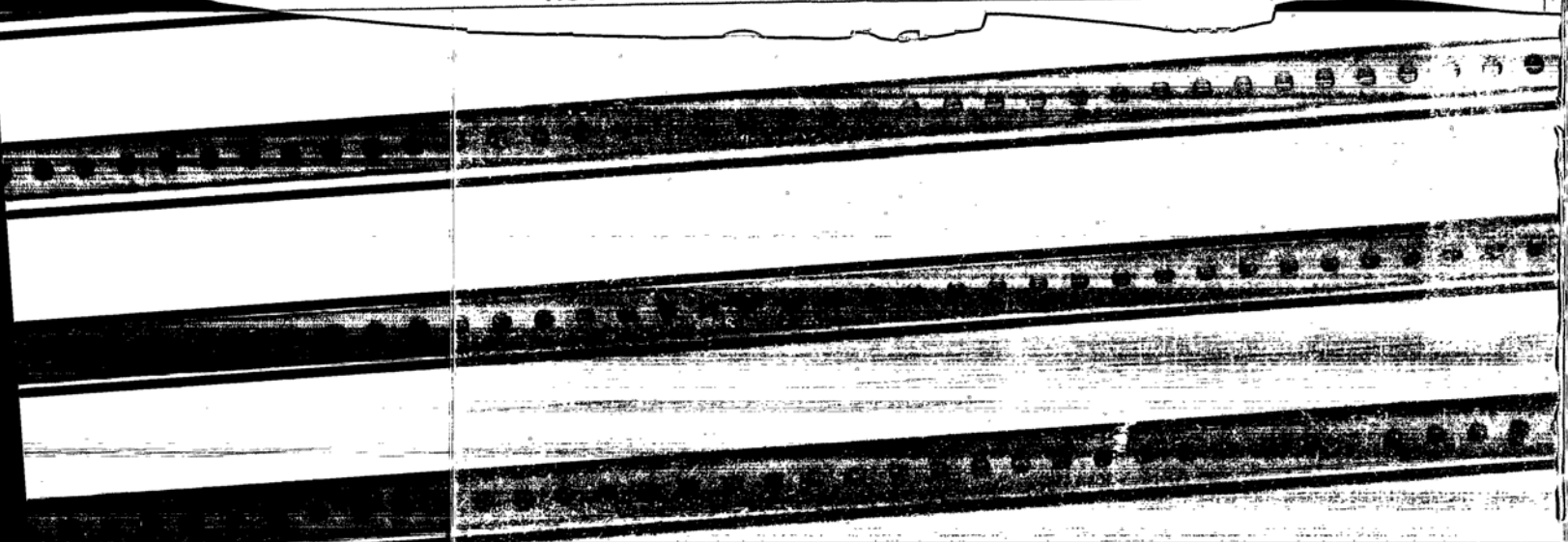
Related activities will be a raf-fle, booths, and refreshments.

The former Treasury Building at Orangethorpe and Beach Boulevard is now in the process of being torn down in preparation for the construction of a \$22 million recreation center. The complex will be built in phases. The complex will include a health club, racquetball courts, swimming pools, and other facilities.

THE ORANGE COUNTY
Register

AUGUST 30, 1935

25 CENTS



The object of fear: intruder striking in heart of darkness

By Jim Carlton
The Register

Two teen-age girls in Mission Viejo are so frightened that they stay awake all night — armed with a hammer and baton.

A preschool boy in Irvine suffers from nightmares because his babysitter told him about it.

And a Vietnamese refugee in Orange confides that she was not this scared even during the Vietnam War.

"Everybody is scared," said Thinh Nguyen, a 34-year-old mother of four. "I ran out of milk last night, and I wouldn't go out."

Throughout Southern California, the object of the fear is the same: a killer who has been dubbed the "night stalker" because he preys on his victims under cover of darkness.

So far, authorities say, he has killed at least 16 people and injured 19 — including a young couple in Mission

Viejo. The attacks have been occurring since February, and the horror of it all, according to one psychiatrist, is that no one knows where he will strike next.

"It's like Russian roulette," said Dr. Paul R. Blair, director of emergency psychiatry at UCI Medical Center in Orange. "I think the randomness of this man is what scares a lot of people."

Statistically, the chances of being singled out by the "night stalker" are vastly less than, say, getting in a car accident or a plane crash, experts say.

But despite the odds, many lie shaking at night — guns loaded, doors bolted, windows and curtains drawn — jumping at things that go bump in the night.

Why so much hysteria over a single killer?

Psychiatrists note this threat is different from that of getting in a crash. Please see **FEAR/A8**



Beckl Morgan of the Orange County Coroner's Office demonstrates a laser used to lift fingerprints.

OC 'night stalker' victim now expected to recover

By Shawn Hubler
and Maria Cone
The Register

A Mission Viejo man shot Sunday by the so-called "night stalker" is "alive and alert" and is expected to recover.

On Thursday, Los Angeles police said Bill Carns, 29, was brain dead, even though officials at Mission Community Hospital insisted he was still alive.

Today, Dr. Tom Shaver, the hospital's chief trauma surgeon, said Carns will probably survive, although one side of his body is paralyzed. Carns was shot three times in the head in the attack.

"He has been alert and with it," Shaver said, adding that Carns has been writing and talking.

The Los Angeles Police Department on Thursday attributed two more

■ **FEAR:** County's 'secure' communities equally afraid of killer/**A9**

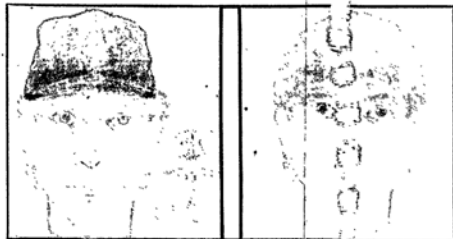
slayings to the suspected serial killer. The additional cases, both in the Los Angeles area, bring the total number of dead to 16. They are older cases, one dating back to February, Los Angeles police officer Willie Wilson said. Police refused to give further details.

In other developments Thursday:

■ Police ruled out the "night stalker" as a suspect in the killing early Thursday of a 27-year-old Orange woman. Cindy Monnier, who lives in a ground-floor apartment at 2082 N. Lincoln St., was found dead at 5 a.m. in a neighbor's flower bed moments after the neighbor heard her frantically screaming for help, police said. Throughout the day, they had declined to rule out a link.

Please see **STALKER/A8**

"NIGHT STALKER"



This is what police know about the so-called 'night stalker':

Height: 6-feet to 6-feet-2-inches.**Weight:** Thin; about 150 lbs.**Coloring:** Brown eyes, either tanned Caucasian or Hispanic.**Hair:** Brown. Curly and unparted in description related to early attacks; less curly and parted in Mission Viejo description. Wore a thin moustache in early attacks.**Age:** About 30 to 35 years old.**Clothing:** Dark. Described in early attacks as wearing dark clothing. In Sun Valley attack, witnesses said he wore dark brown clothing and a blue plaid shirt. In Mission Viejo attack, he was said to be wearing black clothing and a black baseball cap. At the scene of another attack, he left a navy blue baseball cap bearing a silver patch with the letters AC/DC and a red lightning bolt embroidered in red. (The letters represent a heavy-metal rock group.) Police say he tends to wear sneakers.**Gun:** .22-caliber blue steel revolver, .25-caliber automatic pistol.**Method:** Tends to strike in early morning hours, entering through open or easily forced windows.**What to do:** If you believe you have seen this man, contact police in your community immediately. For safety's sake, lock doors and windows and keep pets inside your home with you. Keep back and front porch lights lit at night. Trim shrubbery and other foliage that might conceal intruders. Form a Neighborhood Watch program if your community does not have one already.

Source: The Register

STALKER: Authorities link 2 more slayings to serial killer

FROM A1

Orange County sheriff's investigators said they found fingerprints believed to be the "night stalker's" inside a stolen station wagon. The car had been seen after the serial killer's latest attack in Mission Viejo. However, the slayer's identity is yet to be determined, and the possibility of finding him through fingerprints is considered a "long shot," one investigator said.

Detectives continued to comb construction sites in hopes

prints having been recorded and computerized from some previous arrest, Ragle said.

Investigators have not yet compared the newly obtained fingerprints to prints from other "night stalker" crime scenes, Ragle said.

"That would just provide a connection (we already know)," he said. "We want a name."

The car was examined inside a huge, plastic-walled box hastily constructed by county workers Wednesday afternoon next to the Orange County Coroner's Office.

Fear pervades even 'secure' areas

Orange County's guarded, gated communities equally scared of killer

By Dana Kennedy
The Register

NEWPORT BEACH — The fear that has gripped Orange County in the wake of the attack in Mission Viejo by the so-called "night stalker" is only slightly less feverish in areas that seem the safest: guarded, gated communities.

Residents in three such communities — Big Canyon in Newport Beach, Coral Cay in Huntington Harbour and Surfside Colony near Seal Beach — are as concerned about the killer as their neighbors outside the gates, they said.

Though many said their fears were somewhat alleviated by the presence of guards, most felt that the killer "or anyone for that matter" could get in if they really tried.

"I feel a little safer, I guess,"

said Margaret Ellison, as she drove her Mercedes-Benz through the guarded gates of the exclusive, 700-resident Big Canyon community. "But I'm scared to death anyway. If they don't catch that fiend, I don't know what any of us will do."

Betty Keck, who followed Ellison in an almost-identical car, said she and her husband take the same precautions as anyone else.

"We don't have a gun, but we've got a golf club," she said. "And two chairs up against the screen door. The gates help — sure, they're a deterrent, but people can always get in."

Guards at Coral Cay and Surfside said residents have been nervously mentioning the killer more frequently in recent days.

"They say, 'Don't let him in,' and

I know who they mean," said Roger Kvale, a security guard at Coral Cay, a small, gated community off Pacific Coast Highway. Kvale estimated at least three residents a night mutter something about the "night stalker."

The security guard for Surfside Colony, a beachside community adjacent to the Anaheim Bay Bridge, said residents driving through "seemed scared."

The guard said Surfside residents also urge him to "keep him out."

Several residents pointed out that the presence of gates and guards would not discourage a resourceful criminal.

Carolyn Woodley, 23, a Coral Cay resident, said she was scared because her community is accessible from the water.

"I don't think anybody here feels

any better, because this guy could always come in by the harbor," she said.

"If a deviant really wanted to get in here, he probably could," said Rudolph Baldoni, a Big Canyon resident.

Others were not so pessimistic.

"I don't think there's any question that we feel safer," said Jim Jertson, a Big Canyon resident. "With the guards, he'd have a hard time walking in or driving — that's for sure."

"Of course, it's just a little bit safer," said Bill Vail, as he edged his Mazda RX7 into the Surfside Colony. "It's just that much harder for someone to get in."

George Woodley, 18, of Coral Cay, said the killer is a "little less likely to mess around in this kind of place. The guards are kind of intimidating."

FEAR: Killer has violated 'our castles' under cover of night

FROM A1

"It comes down to a man's home is his castle, and there have been a number of castle invasions lately," Blair said.

Equally chilling, Blair said, is the fact that the serial killer seems indiscriminate in his choice of victims. He preys on men, women and children, killing the men, raping and/or killing the women and, occasionally, raping and sodomizing children.

It is this viciousness, combined with the fact it can happen anywhere, that scares people so much, Blair said.

"The nitty gritty is the fact that every man holds their home to be inviolate, and this guy has proved to be a good home invader," Blair said.

Another frightening thought, Blair added, is the potential for "copycats" — other killers emulating the "night stalker."

Blair and other experts say such violence hits especially hard in a place like Orange County, which, to some, seems far-removed from big-city evils. As a result, no one feels completely safe, authorities say.

An example of just how panicky Orange Countians have become is the public reaction to news of a woman's homicide in Orange early Thursday.

were aglow after Orange police initially said they could not rule out the "night stalker's" involvement in the death of Cindy Monnier, 27, of 2082 N. Lincoln Ave. Monnier's nude body was found at 5 a.m. in the flower bed of a next-door neighbor to whom she apparently was running for help.

An ironic footnote to that incident was that few neighbors reported hearing anything because they had their windows shut for fear of being attacked by the "night stalker."

At the scene of the killing, bystanders were ready to blame the "night stalker." (On Thursday night, police officially ruled out the serial killer's involvement.)

"I'm ready to go out and learn to shoot a gun," said Sharon Roque-more, a 25-year-old mother who lives across the street from where Monnier was killed. "It scares me because he comes in at night; that's what's scary. You can't see very well (and) you're off your guard."

Tim Zimprich, 25, an Orange baker who was holding his infant son at the scene, said he is leaving his lights on at night and making sure the windows are locked.

"You don't know where he's going to hit," Zimprich said, adding he has lived in Orange 15 years with no problems. "Orange is a

Janet Baker, 36, also of Orange, said she was frightened before Monnier was killed.

"This guy is just breaking into everyday, middle-class homes and killing everybody," she said. "That's why everybody's scared."

Fear of the "night stalker" is so rampant that some people are arming themselves to the teeth. Gun stores have reported a booming business, as have locksmiths.

In Tustin, a motorist Thursday, pulled over by the California Highway Patrol, opened his glove box and sheepishly admitted he had just bought the gun for protection against the "night stalker."

Adults' fear is having a profound effect on children as well, child psychologists report. Allison Clarke-Stewart, a UC Irvine social ecology professor who wrote a book on day-care centers, said children respond to their parents' fears, adding, "and I know a lot of parents are afraid."

Cheryl Ruszat, director of the Village Montessori day-care center in Irvine, said children will get worried if they perceive something as a direct threat to them, and parents' fear is perceived exactly that way.

Preschool children aren't affected so much as older children — especially teen-agers, Ruszat said.

"I have two teen-age boys at home (in Irvine), and that's all they're talking about," she said. "They're all watching for the car. They're locking their doors at night. They're watching for the man."

But not everyone is losing his or her cool over the "night stalker."

Samuel Battersby, 68, who lives in Mission Viejo, just a few doors down from where Bill Carns was shot three times in the head Sunday morning by the stalker, said he just makes sure to keep his doors and windows secure — as he always has done.

"I'm not going to go out and buy a gun," he said, reclining comfortably in an easy chair. "I'll be 69 next month, and I've never in my life shot a shotgun. I've shot a pistol a half-dozen times — all in one day."

"I don't think guns are the answer," he added. "If you don't get the drop on a guy, you provoke him more."

Dara Stuart, a 25-year-old mother who lives across the street from the Monnier woman in Orange, said she, too, is not worried. She said she has an alternative to fear: faith in God.

"I believe the Lord watches over us," she said.

Contractors in Arcadia, Calif., said police had been alerted to sites near the homes of several other stalkers-related attacks with computer drawings and what appeared to be a police mug shot of the man believed to be the killer.

Contrary to police claims, investigators search for hair, fibers and other evidence that possibly could be used against the "night stalker," he said.

Thursday also brought information that the "night stalker" device had at least once from his pattern of stealthy intrusions through open or unlocked windows.

The information that the killer burst into one apartment by shattering a window, rather than entering through an open door as police have claimed, came from Don Bonelli, vice-president of a construction company. Bonelli said he discovered the body of Patricia Elaine Higgins on June 27 in Arcadia.

Bonelli said he and his partner were asked by a friend of Higgins to check on the woman after she failed to show up for work that day. The guy apparently had broken in by smashing the window on her bedroom door," he said. "When we walked in, the first thing we noticed was that the bedroom had been torn up like there was a fight. Then, my business partner saw her in the bathroom. First he saw her legs, and then we opened the bathroom door.

"When we opened the door, we saw the rest of it. Her throat was slashed from ear to ear," Bonelli said. He and other construction workers have been shown composites by investigators probing the killings.

The police have gone through our personnel records profiling our employees, and of course they've come up with nothing," he said. "But I think they're just questioning everybody, trying to piece this thing together."

Police have said in prior releases the killer may sometimes work in construction. He also has robbed some of his victims; they said. In a Sun Valley attack, cash and jewelry worth about \$30,000 were taken from the victims' home, police have said.

Staff writers Lennie LaGuire and Gregg Zoroya contributed to this report.

Because man does not live by news alone, you'll find a cornucopia of feature, entertainment and lifestyle information every day in the Accent section of The Orange County Register. Discover why you are the way you are! What to do, go to and where to do it. To put acceptance in your life, turn to the Leader. Turn to The Orange County Register.

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SAVINGS AND VALUES AT YOUR FINGERTIPS!

Metro

Body of woman found in yard of neighbor

Police say murder in Orange is not the work of 'night stalker'

By Jim Carlton
and Enrique Rangel
The Register

ORANGE — The nude body of a woman was found in her next-door neighbor's flower bed early Thursday, minutes after she was heard screaming and knocking frantically on the neighbor's door.

Orange Police Lt. Dean Richards said Thursday night that the 5 a.m. death of Cindy Monnier, 27, of 2082 N. Lincoln St., was not the work of the "night stalker."

Orange police said this morning that Monnier had been stabbed once in the heart with a knife.

The weapon was not found at the scene, and police know nothing else about it, said Sgt. Lou Walsh, head of the department's major-crimes unit.

Monnier's slayer "could be a friend, or it could be someone she knew," said Lt. Mike Leintz of the Orange Police Department. "We really don't know. It's a 'whodunit,' and we have no suspects at this time."

Walsh said area residents reported hearing a vehicle leaving the scene.

Orange police called the Orange County and Los Angeles County sheriff's departments for help with the investigation.

Orange police also have requested the use of the Orange County Sheriff's Department's crime-scene unit, which city officers said is summoned on "major" investigations.

Police refused to say Thursday whether Monnier's apartment was broken into or if anything was taken from the premises.

Crime-scene investigators were seen tagging as evidence a window screen and a table lamp. Police detectives also were seen sifting through garbage.

Leintz said Monnier's apartment was burglarized two weeks ago. She had lived alone in the one-bedroom apartment for two years.

Walsh said this morning that the burglary and homicide are not believed to be linked.

According to an Orange police report, a television and radio valued at \$300 were taken from her apartment Aug. 15.

The apartment manager said Monnier came from Ohio and

Please see MURDER/B7

MURDER: Orange woman slain by knife at apartment complex

FROM B1

worked at an Orange County bank. "She was very quiet; a very nice young lady," the manager said. "She was a good neighbor."

Leintz said police received a call from Monnier's next-door neighbor about a woman screaming. The neighbor, whom he declined to identify, did not respond immedi-

ately to the cries and knocks at her door.

The neighbor opened the door and discovered the body approximately 10 minutes after hearing Monnier's cries.

Monnier lived about 25 feet from the neighboring one-bedroom

apartment in the four-plex, Leintz said.

Two neighbors across the street also reported hearing a woman scream but thought little of it at the time.

Dara Stuart, 25, a housewife, said she was awakened by a

"quick, short" scream and the slam of a wrought-iron gate next to her four-plex across the street from Monnier.

Sharon Roquemore, 25, who lives near Stuart, said she heard a muffled scream "coming from out front," when she was feeding her infant.

Victims of Stalker See Ramirez in Jail Lineup

By DAVID FREED,
Times Staff Writer

Seeking to strengthen their case against Night Stalker suspect Richard Ramirez, authorities Thursday night placed the 25-year-old drifter in a lineup before about 30 surviving relatives, witnesses and victims of attacks allegedly committed by Ramirez.

Sheriff's officials declined to say whether any of those who attended the lineup at Los Angeles County Central Jail were able to recognize Ramirez.

After the lineup, the victims and witnesses examined about 2,000 pieces of jewelry and other articles, including video-cassette recorders and cameras, that investigators believe Ramirez stole in a series of burglaries in California. Ramirez is suspected of having committed at least 15 slayings and 21 assaults, kidnappings and rapes during the break-ins.

Ramirez was arrested Saturday in East Los Angeles after an all-points bulletin was issued for his arrest the night before. He is being held without bail in a maximum security section of the jail.

Affect on Case

The recollections of those who allegedly encountered Ramirez and their ability to prove ownership of the stolen items may ultimately determine which slayings and other criminal acts prosecutors will pursue against the El Paso, Tex., native, sheriff's officials said.

Witnesses, victims and survivors who visited the jail Thursday night viewed Ramirez in a 25-foot-by-80-foot room equipped with a stage, intense lighting and a one-way-glass partition running the length of the stage. Viewers were seated on one side of the glass, while Ramirez and a half-dozen other unidentified men resembling him were marched onto the stage.

Those in the lineup were unable to see those who viewed them or to hear their comments.

Sheriff's Lt. Dick Walls said that generally in such procedures, those on stage are asked through an intercom system to turn several directions so that viewers have sufficient opportunity to observe them. Viewers are then asked to identify the suspect.

At the request of the Sheriff's Department, the news media agreed to remain away from the jail while the victims and survivors filtered in and out.

"What concerns us is the condition of some of our witnesses," said Deputy Willie Miller told reporters. "Some are under medical care, some are with nurses. We are afraid, as traumatized as they are, having to face news media prior to or after that might damage our case."

Walls said Thursday night that most of the jewelry and other stolen items linked to Ramirez had



KEN HIVELEY / Los Angeles Times

A pleased James Romero III with Orange County Sheriff Brad Gates at press conference honoring the youth.

Boy Who Spotted Suspect's Car Gets Wheels of His Own

By MARK LANDSBAUM, Times Staff Writer

About 90 minutes before the Night Stalker struck at a Mission Viejo home on Aug. 25, a sheriff's deputy was several blocks away taking a report from a 13-year-old boy who had seen a "suspicious" car, Orange County Sheriff Brad Gates said Thursday.

There was no immediate reason, Gates pointed out, to believe that the orange Toyota whose partial license number was provided by James Romero III was the car used in the Stalker attacks, previously confined to Los Angeles and San Francisco areas.

But the connection was made through a fingerprint found in the car, and young Romero had helped break the case. He was not publicly identified until Thursday.

At a press conference held to commend and reward the youth, Gates said there was "no question James provided us with the most important piece of information we received out of 2,000 phone calls" concerning the Mission Viejo attack, in which 29-year-old Bill Carns was shot three times in the head and his fiancée was raped.

Gates called the slightly built eighth-grade student "the hero

Please see **HERO**, Page 12

been taken this year. He would not specify where the items had been found, except to say that locations included Los Angeles County, San Francisco and El Paso.

Some of the goods were recovered with a search warrant, Walls said, but he would not say where that warrant was executed.

"It's evidence that has been gathered in this investigation by various methods, including from individuals who accepted the articles or bought the articles from a suspect that we believe to be Ramirez," he said.

He noted that "many" people who had purchased articles from Ramirez or had received gifts from him turned them over to authorities voluntarily when they learned that the items might have come

from the prime suspect in the Night Stalker investigation.

Such was the case two weeks ago, when police in Lompoc, 130 miles northwest of Los Angeles, were contacted by a woman who told them that she had recently acquired a bracelet and ring from a "old family acquaintance" in San Francisco whom she knew only as "Rick." She told authorities that "Rick" closely resembled a widely circulated composite sketch of the man believed to be the Stalker. Using the jewelry and other evidence, detectives were later able to link Ramirez to the Aug. 15 burglary and, ultimately, to the Aug. 17 slaying in San Francisco of 66-year-old accountant Peter Pan.

The articles on display at the
Please see **LINEUP**, Page 12

LINEUP: Stalker Victims View Suspect, Inspect Stolen Items

Continued from Page 3

Central Jail filled three, 25-foot-long tables that were guarded by two deputies. The items, besides the rings, broaches, necklaces and earrings, included cameras, televisions, a video cassette recorder, video tapes, three suitcases and even a ceramic vase.

Dozens of pieces of jewelry were believed stolen July 20 in Sun Valley, where 32-year-old Chainarong Khovanath was shot to death and his wife assaulted by a late-night intruder. Police said at the time that at least \$30,000 in jewels and cash had been taken.

In a related development, authorities report that the search for evidence in the case has widened to Utah, where jewelry that may be linked to Pan's murder in San Francisco was located.

Ogden, Utah, Police Chief Joe H. Ritchie said Thursday that a 10-karat gold ring had been linked to

the Stalker suspect. He said an Ogden resident surrendered the ring last Sunday after receiving a call from a friend in the San Francisco area who had given it to him.

Ritchie said the ring is believed to have been a gift from Ramirez that was later passed on to the Utah man.

In Los Angeles, County Supervisor Pete Schabarum called for a \$5,000 "no-questions-asked" reward to anyone who turns in a gun that Ramirez is believed to have dropped while running from angry citizens Saturday in Boyle Heights.

Los Angeles authorities searched without success for the weapon Wednesday, leading to speculation that it may have been found and kept by someone who did not realize its significance.

A sheriff's spokesman said officers were "praying someone will hear about it and step forward."

HERO: Boy Gets Wheels of His Own

Continued from Page 3

of Orange County" and presented him with an off-road, three-wheel motorcycle and \$4,500 in cash from private donors.

The motorcycle obviously caught the boy by surprise. "Guy," was all he could say as he stepped around television cameras to inspect the vehicle.

He had been working on his old motorbike in the garage of his home about 1 a.m. when he saw the Toyota, a sighting that helped lead to the capture of Stalker suspect Richard Ramirez. He declined, however, to disclose exactly what prompted him to call sheriff's dep-

uties.

Gates said he would not discuss details of the boy's sighting of the orange Toyota until after filing the case with the Orange County district attorney's office, today or early next week. The youth said that when he spotted the car and got its license number, "I didn't really know" its significance. "I did what I could," he said. "I just hope other people who see stuff like that report it."

Family Attends Event

"If he was up to 1:30 in the morning working on that (motorbike), he'll be up to 3 or 4 with this," said his father, James Romero, 46, a civil service employee at El Toro Marine Corps Air Station. Also attending the ceremonies were the boy's mother, Emily, 39 and his sister, Lisa, 16.

Young Romero is the first person to receive cash rewards in connection with the Night Stalker case, Gates said.

Gates said he has written the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors and the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Night Stalker task force recommending that Romero be given "a substantial" portion of the more than \$75,000 in reward money to be dispersed there.

Asked if he felt like a hero, the boy said simply: "Yeah."

FIRST BASEBALL PLAYER TESTIFI

Friday

September 6, 1985

Morning final MM

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Los Angeles Herald Examiner

LOS ANGELES HERALD

773

EXAMINER

**IN NEWS
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A-11

Night Stalker police lineup

Christmas comes early for 13-year-old



Joseph Romero III, sitting on Yamaha ATV, is lauded at Orange County sheriff's headquarters for helping crack Stalker case.

Boy rewarded for giving key tip on killer

By Kathleen Kaz Garner
Herald staff writer

A 13-year-old Mission Viejo boy was rewarded by Orange County officials yesterday for helping direct police to "the most important information" in the Night Stalker case — the stolen orange Toyota allegedly used by the killer.

As thanks for the valuable tip, Joseph Romero III was awarded two plaques — one from the sheriff's department and one from the sheriff's advisory commission, a \$1,000 check from the

commission and its promise of an additional \$2,500. He also received an ATV all-terrain vehicle, a motorcycle T-shirt and helmet.

Romero was working on his minibike about 1 a.m. on Aug. 25 when he spotted the vehicle. It was the partial license number the boy saw along with a description of the vehicle that helped police identify the car as stolen, officials said at a news conference at Orange County sheriff's headquarters.

Shortly after Romero's sighting, the Night Stalker attacked a young couple who lived nearby, shooting William Carns in the

head three times and assaulting his fiancée. Carns remains hospitalized in stable condition.

The car was found abandoned in Los Angeles the next day. A fingerprint found inside the car has been matched by authorities to Night Stalker suspect Richard Ramirez.

Because young Romero is considered a witness, neither he nor officials would reveal what circumstances made the vehicle appear suspicious or whether the car was parked or moving.

"I just saw it and did what I

Car/A-19, Col. 3

'Distraught' victims try to identify serial killer

By Andy Furillo
Herald staff writer

About 30 emotionally "distraught" victims, witnesses and survivors of the Night Stalker attacks that terrorized California tried to pick out the suspected serial killer from a lineup last night and furnish a major break in the case.

Investigators did not disclose whether any of those who viewed him identified Night Stalker suspect Richard Ramirez at the lineup held at Los Angeles County Men's Central Jail that included five other inmates.

Sheriff's department spokesman Lt. Dick Walls said the experience was filled with emotion for the people from Los Angeles, San Francisco and El Paso, Texas, who were asked to try to select the 25-year-old drifter from the lineup.

"If you can imagine the most distraught, painful, emotional experience that somebody could go through, that's what's going on in there," Walls told reporters while the witnesses — shielded from the press by a horde of investigators who comprise the Night Stalker task force — looked at Ramirez inside the jail.

"These people have been through very emotional, traumatic experiences," Walls added. "Now they're being asked to view him again — face to face. There is high emotion. There is tension. There is a lot of pain and a lot of sadness."

Walls said the ability of the witnesses to identify Ramirez is "absolutely imperative" to the case.

Ramirez has been charged

Stalker/A-19, Col. 3

Boy rewarded for key evidence in Stalker case

Car/Continued from A-1

could to get it," Romero said of the car and license plate number. The boy and his family were kept under protective police custody from the time of the sighting until the suspect was caught.

"The boy is a very important part of our case," said Orange County sheriff press spokesman Lt. Dick Olson.

In addition to his other gifts, Romero also will receive \$2,500 from Georgia Frontiere, owner of the Los Angeles Rams, Orange County Sheriff Brad Gates said. The

boy might receive even more money if Los Angeles County Supervisors approve the request Gates made on Romero's behalf for part of the \$70,000 in reward money being offered by various California agencies for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the Night Stalker.

"Today we honor a young man who there's no question led us to the identity of the suspect," said Gates as James, Emily and Lisa Romero — the boy's father, mother and sister — looked on proudly.

"James provided us with the most important information," Gates

said, adding that the boy should be praised for "not being afraid to get involved." The boy smiled as he received the awards from Gates, Commissioner Tony Moiso and Orange County Supervisors Tom Riley and Bruce Nestande, but his mouth dropped open after he was handed the motorcycle helmet and Yamaha T-shirt and was shown a black three-wheel dirt bike hidden behind journalists and television cameras.

The three-wheel black Yamaha ATV was purchased from a local dealer at a "knocked-down" price by an anonymous donor, Gates said.

The small boy walked quickly to the bike and hopped right on. "This is real nice," Romero said.

"I just hope other people who see stuff like that report it and help the area," he said.

'Distraught' victims try to identify the attacker

Stalker/Continued from A-1

with two of the 15 murders definitely linked to the Night Stalker attacks that began at least as far back as June 1984 and extended up to the suspect's arrest last Saturday, when he was chased down and beaten by citizens who captured him in East Los Angeles.

Besides being asked to identify Ramirez, the witnesses and victims of the Night Stalker attacks were also asked last night to try and identify more than 2,000 allegedly stolen articles that were placed on display inside the jail.

Walls said the articles were recovered in at least one search warrant served by investigators and from an unidentified number of individuals who turned the potential evidence over to authorities.

"The individuals either were given or bought the items that investigators believe were handled by Ramirez," Walls said.

The spokesman also did not say if the 30 people at the jail last night were able to identify any of the stolen items, which consisted mostly of jewelry wrapped in plastic bags, but also included vases, VCRs, a television set, personal letters, briefcases, video cassettes and clothing.

Walls said the items were recovered from the Los Angeles, San Francisco and El Paso areas.

"Hopefully, in some cases, (the identification of the property) will give us a clear picture of his (Ramirez's) activities," Walls said.

In the midst of Ramirez's alleged crime spree, he was arrested on suspicion of stealing a car in downtown Los Angeles and sentenced to 75 days in Los Angeles County Jail, according to court records.

Ramirez was arrested on Dec. 12 under the alias of Richard Munoz Moreno when he nearly crashed his stolen 1975 Toyota Corolla into a Los Angeles police patrol car at Sixth and San Pedro streets downtown.

He pleaded no contest to the auto theft charge, served his time

in County Jail, was released on Jan. 23 and was placed on two years probation.

Ramirez, identified as a transient by police, had hypodermic needle marks on both arms, arresting officers reported.

In an interview published yesterday in the Lompoc Record, a former roommate of Ramirez said that the suspected Night Stalker began injecting cocaine into his arms within the past year.

The former roommate, Earl Gregg Jr., 25, lived with Ramirez for a four-month period in 1980 in San Pablo, about 15 miles north of San Francisco, the paper reported.

Gregg told the paper that Ramirez had changed dramatically since the two roomed together.

"The drugs and maybe the satanic cult made him snap," Gregg was quoted as saying.

Investigators have found satanist symbols, such as inverted pentagrams, at some Night Stalker crime scenes, but prosecutors have played down occultism as a motive for the slayings.

Gregg apparently is the informant whose tip to the Lompoc Police Department led to the eventual identification of Ramirez by authorities in San Francisco.

He said in the newspaper interview that his wife purchased stolen jewelry from Ramirez last month in San Francisco. The jewelry had been taken from a residence Ramirez is believed to have burglarized on Aug. 15. Gregg said he suspected that Ramirez was the Night Stalker and told Lompoc police that his wife obtained the jewelry from the suspect.

Gregg's tip allowed San Francisco police to place Ramirez in the Bay Area at the time of the Aug. 17 slaying of Peter Pan, a 66-year-old accountant.

Meanwhile, Supervisor Pete Schabarum yesterday called for a \$5,000 reward for the person who finds the small-caliber handgun that Ramirez might have thrown away before his capture in East Los Angeles.

To collect the money, the person who retrieves the gun must turn it



Deputy Tom Martin guards evidence allegedly stolen by the Night Stalker.

over to authorities by midnight tonight, Schabarum said.

The Board of Supervisors, which does not meet again until Tuesday, must approve Schabarum's request before the reward can be issued. Schabarum said he anticipates the board will approve the request.

"The momentum of gathering evidence in this case is waning," he said. "We want to keep the whole matter on the front burner."

Walls, who accompanied Schabarum at the supervisor's afternoon news conference, said it is possible that somebody may have already recovered the gun, but is not forwarding it to authorities.

"Common sense tells me that if, in fact, he (Ramirez) was carrying it, someone now has it," Walls said.

Ramirez's lawyer, Deputy Public Defender Allen Adashek, said yesterday he has spoken with the suspected Night Stalker. Adashek declined to disclose the details of his conversation with Ramirez or to characterize his client's mood.

Adashek said he has "just barely" begun to examine the police reports that were turned over to him after Ramirez was charged Tuesday with the May 14 slaying of 65-year-old William Doi of Monterey Park.

Ramirez is charged in San Francisco with the Aug. 17 murder of Pan. One of his fingerprints has also been at the scene of the June 18, 1984, murder of Jennie Vincow, 79, but that case has not yet been turned over to prosecutors.

Herald staff writers Chris Woodyard and Nancy Hill-Holtzman contributed to this story.

COUNTY/WEATHER

A-2—STAR-NEWS, FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 1985

A-3 COMING SATURDAY

Night Stalker suspect viewed in L.A. lineup

By JIM TRANQUADA
Staff Writer

About 30 emotional survivors of the Night Stalker's nocturnal reign of terror viewed the prime suspect in the case in a police lineup Thursday at Los Angeles Central County Jail as police continued to try and link him to a series of brutal killings.

The victims and witnesses from Southern California and San Francisco were also shown a roomful of jewelry, cameras and other items allegedly stolen in burglaries by Richard Ramirez, the 25-year-old drifter police believe may have committed 15 murders over the past year.

Positive identification of Ramirez in the lineup or of the stolen items on display could play a very important role in adding to the case against Ramirez, who was arraigned Tuesday on a single count of murder and several other charges of assault and burglary, Sheriff's Lt. Richard Walls said.

"It's the most emotional, painful experience going on in there that you could imagine," Walls said of the lineup held in the "show-up" room on the first floor of the jail complex.

However, results from the

lineup and the property identification probably won't be announced by the district attorney's office for a least a couple of days, Walls added.

The booty on display on three long tables — 2,000 pieces of jewelry, cameras, coins, videotapes, china, briefcases, suitcases, a white fur coat and a television set — came from Southern California, San Francisco and El Paso, Walls said.

No firearms or drugs were included in the property on display, he said.

Some of the property may have been seized with search warrants, but a majority came from individuals who either bought it or were given it by someone investigators believe could be Ramirez, he said.

Walls couldn't provide an estimate of the value of the property, nor would he comment on how long investigators had been accumulating the collection or from what specific locations it had been taken.

Meanwhile, a massive search continued for a small-caliber pistol Ramirez is believed to

Please see **STALKER**,
Page A-7

Stalker: Suspect viewed by victims in L.A. lineup

Continued from Page A-1

have discarded just before his arrest Saturday in East Los Angeles.

Los Angeles County Supervisor Pete Schabarum said Thursday he will ask for a \$5,000 reward for the gun, which police call a key piece of evidence, if it is handed in by midnight tonight, Schabarum spokesman Tom Hibbard said.

The search for the gun is part of a widened investigation in Southern California and San Francisco into hundreds of unsolved murders, assaults and rapes dating back to 1981, when Ramirez is believed to have come to California from his native El Paso, Texas.

Police had believed the first of the Night Stalker's victims

was 34-year-old Dayle Okazaki, slain in her Rosemead home March 17. But Los Angeles police announced Wednesday Ramirez had left fingerprints at the scene of the June 1984 killing of Jennie Vincow, 79, of Glassell Park.

San Francisco police also are examining several unsolved slayings, including the Feb. 20 stabbing death of two sisters and the June 2 shooting death of a young man whose girlfriend was assaulted.

Sheriff's detectives in Contra Costa County were also taking a fresh look at an unspecified killing to see if it resembled the Night Stalker murders, the Associated Press reported.

However, police in the San Bernardino County community of Montclair "have pretty much

ruled out" the possibility that the Night Stalker was responsible for the fatal shooting of two men early Saturday morning, hours before Ramirez was captured by angry residents in East Los Angeles.

Based on descriptions provided by neighbors, the only resemblance between Ramirez and the intruder who shot Richard Cuzzi, 24, and Scott Anthony Rockwell, 22, is that they are both male Latinos, said Det. Greg Flannery.

Ramirez is scheduled to reappear Monday in Los Angeles Municipal Court, but he may not enter a plea to the charges against him and a preliminary hearing may not be scheduled for some time, said Deputy Public Defender Allen Adashek, who has been assigned to represent Ramirez.

Guardians seek community angels

Garage sale set to erase debt

By KATHY BRAIDHILL
Special Correspondent

Although a suspect in the Night Stalker serial murder case has been arrested, the work — and the bills — of the Guardian Angels continue to mount.

The Angels are holding a garage sale Saturday in a parking lot at 304 Sierra Madre Blvd., Sierra Madre, to help pay off more than \$1,000 in phone bills accumulated during the week-long house-sitting program held in more than 100 San Gabriel Valley homes.

The sale, which will run from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., will feature antiques, tools, clothes, furniture, baby clothes, toys, pets and other items. In addition, Guardian Angels T-shirts, bumper stickers, and buttons will be sold.

Donations of items to be sold by the Angels will be appreciated, said Danny Lewis, chapter leader of the Westside Los Angeles Guardian Angels. More information is available by calling (818) 446-6678.

"We shipped in a half-dozen Angels from San Francisco, from Santa Ana, Riverside and San Diego," said Lewis. "We've incurred a debt and we need to offset that immediately."

In addition to the expense from phone bills, the Angels paid for bus tickets, and

accommodations for Angels to stay while they were in Los Angeles, Lewis said.

The possible capture of the Night Stalker will not mean the end of the Angels in red berets in this area, Lewis said.

"Our efforts will continue out there. Our goal is to bring the presence of the Guardian Angels into pockets of high crime in the San Gabriel Valley," Lewis said.

As a result of Angels founder Curtis Sliwa's appearance on television, on the radio and from newspaper coverage, the Angels have received hundreds of phone calls from residents asking for more information on patrols and how to start chapters in their areas.

Lewis said requests to form chapters came from Huntington Beach, Diamond Bar, Santa Barbara, Torrance, Pomona, Glendale, Redondo Beach, Whittier and a dozen other cities.

The Angels will continue to patrol in areas requested by residents and keep the San Gabriel Valley chapter alive.

"We are responding to the demand," Lewis said. "Where we patrol is based on response."

"If they have a tip that there are problems in one particular area, we will be there to respond to those needs," Lewis added.

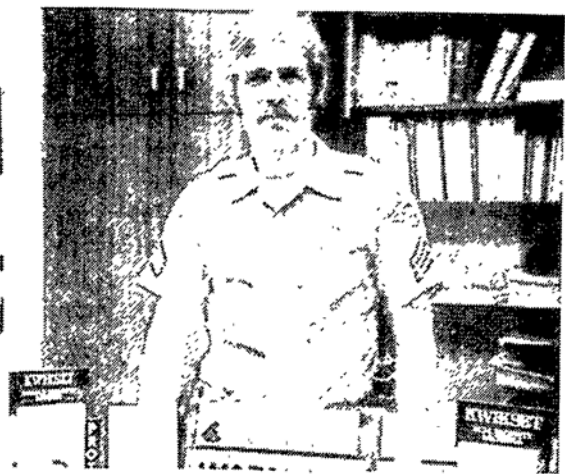
SIERRA MADRE NEWS

Sierra Madre & Hastings Ranch

**DRIVE
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Thursday, September 29, 1985

Vol. 80 — No. 44



Sgt. Larry Lutzow

Possible scam hits Sierra Madre

The possibility of a scam broke at the end of last week when a Sierra Madre woman called The News to report a plainclothes male requesting C.O.D. funds in return for a booklet.

The man came to the door and asked for the woman's daughter, saying he had a collect package from United Parcel Service. The man was not in uniform and he was not driving a U.P.S. truck.

Thinking quickly, the woman excused herself and surreptitiously called her daughter to inquire whether or not she was to receive a package. The daughter replied negatively, so the Sierra Madrean told the unidentified man she did not have enough money to pay him.

He asked how much she had and she said, "Not enough." He asked why she did not pay by check and she fibbed that her husband had their only checkbook.

According to a spokesperson for United Parcel Service, often plainclothes supervisors go out in the areas to collect C.O.D. orders. If they do not collect, they usually put the package on the U.P.S. truck for the next day's servicing. As of Tuesday there were no packages placed on the truck for the Sierra Madre area run.

A spokesperson for U.P.S. suggested that anyone having this experience should notify U.P.S. or the Sierra Madre Police, 355-1414.

Never relax home security

Now that law enforcement agencies have a suspect who is the alleged "Valley Intruder," "Walk In Killer," "Night Stalker," we all tend to heave a sigh of relief and open all the doors and windows in this hot, September weather.

Sgt. Larry Lutzow, who, with Sgt. Wayne Bailey, is in charge of training for the Neighborhood Watch program in Sierra Madre, warns everyone that the program is always in the vogue.

Although the killer who stalked California for months might be the suspect who was caught in downtown Los Angeles Saturday, it is well to remember that there are many burglars out there. Lutzow says "He has knocked burglaries down by one-third. They have been afraid of him, too."

However, with two policemen on duty at one time to protect 10,000 Sierra Madre citizens, it is well "to watch out for each other," Lutzow cautions. Of course, he adds, the Neighborhood Watch program is the best tool for that.

Anyone who wishes to start a "Watch" program should first contact neighbors to find out how many are interested. If only two or three indicate an interest, the police would be glad to come out for an individual free home security check. If more are interested, the police should be contacted at 355-1414 and a mutually-agreed-on date set for the meeting.

At the meeting, which is usually held in one of those places that describes how burglars work. Then police hand out helpful pamphlets and describe to the neighbors the various locks available and how doors and windows can be secured.

Homes can be open but secure if residents open a window six inches and drive a nail or screw into the jam so the sash cannot be opened. Only air can enter a home secured in that manner.

Lutzow warns residents not to barricade doors with chairs or tables because in case of fire it would be difficult to escape quickly. Also, he says, the EMTs could not enter in case of a health emergency. He suggests people check their doors and windows before going to bed to reassure themselves.

Please turn to page 8

Never relax home security

Continued from page 1

Lutzow says that during the time of panic before the suspect was caught, many of the strange noises people heard during the night were caused by raccoons walking and avocados falling off trees. People were keeping their dogs indoors and "varmints" had full run of the streets.

One of the major problems in Sierra Madre is the lack of posting addresses. Often, the only number is on the curb and there is a car with a night permit parked directly in front of that number. He repeats, "Please put that house or apartment number where it can be seen easily from the street."

If someone knocks on the door, do not open the door, Lutzow says. Ask who the caller is and do not open up automatically if the caller identifies himself as a policeman. Look through a door peephole or through a nearby window before opening the door to anyone.

"Know your neighbors. Look out for each other. Remember that your police are on duty 24 hours a day," Lutzow says.

He reports that within five to six years of doing the Neighborhood Watch, about 50-60% of the city has become involved in the program. Signs have been available and have been installed within the past three years.

Lutzow says the police "do not advocate the purchase of fire arms." He says policemen have been met at front doors several times by citizens with guns. "It's hazardous for us out there.

During the recent emergency, miscellaneous service calls almost doubled, Lutzow says.

Out of 20 calls on the 9-1-1 number only, two have really been emergencies, he reports. Now that police have a suspect for the "Stalker," they will be much stricter about the use of the 9-1-1 on non-emergency calls.

Even Chief Bill Betts pulled patrol duty a week ago. Lutzow says there is no pattern to their patrol but they attempt to hit "most every street" in town during a 24-hr. patrol.

The most important fact for everyone to remember is to be cautious and to use common sense in home security.

IT'S A DAY TO FORGET FOR BOTH

Monday
September 2, 1985

Final news
25 cents

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Los Angeles Herald Examiner

LOS ANGELES HERALD

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EXAMINER

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New Stalker evidence sought

Toast of the town



Angelina and Manuel De La Torre of East Hubbard Street, their children Amber and Manuel Jr., and their champagne.

Neighbors who caught Ramirez meet press

By Ruben Castaneda
Herald staff writer

The day after the dramatic citizen capture of the Night Stalker suspect, the East Los Angeles residents who cornered the fugitive contended with a second invasion of their neighborhood: the press.

The inhabitants of Hubbard Street, just east of the Los Angeles city line, were deluged with sheriff's deputies, policemen and re-

porters Saturday when Richard Ramirez, the suspected Night Stalker, was run down and captured by four residents.

The police and sheriff's squad cars were gone yesterday, but the journalists — electronic and print — were back en masse, and were joined by a number of well-wishers who came by to congratulate the residents who helped capture the suspect.

The people hailed as heroes by reporters remained gracious and low-key, generally downplaying

their roles in capturing the 25-year-old Ramirez, named by investigators as the prime suspect in as many as 16 murders and 28 assaults.

Typical was the comment of 54-year-old Jose Burgoin, one of the four people who captured Ramirez: "I'm happy that people are saying we did something good. I feel good to have been able to help."

Burgoin and the three others

Heroes/A-4, Col. 3

Suspect's car found, plea for gun issued

By Mark S. Warnick
and Jeff Gottlieb
Herald staff writers

As jailers mounted watch outside the cell of Night Stalker suspect Richard Ramirez last night, authorities issued a dramatic appeal for public help in finding the handgun he may have discarded before his capture.

The small, dark weapon — possibly .22 or .25 caliber — may be a vital piece of evidence in some of the cases linked to the Night Stalker, said Lt. Dick Walls of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department.

"If we don't find it, it may be impossible to link some of the homicides to the suspect," Walls said.

Ramirez, who was run down and captured by an impromptu posse of East Los Angeles residents Saturday, is believed to have dropped the handgun as he fled, possibly while leaping a fence.

A small army of detectives scoured the alleys and byways of the Hollenbeck area for the gun yesterday, even closing off one lane of the Santa Ana Freeway. No weapon was found.

Ramirez, 25, is a suspect in the murders of 16 people and attacks on at least 28 others. His capture ended one of the largest manhunts in state history.

In other developments in the case yesterday:

■ A green Pontiac Grand Prix believed to have been driven by Ramirez was recovered by police in Los Angeles County. Deputies said the car was found in the 100 block of Avenue 23 in the Lincoln Heights area of Los Angeles.

■ A former roommate of Ramirez said he was obsessed by the lyrics of a heavy metal song called "Night Prowler" by a band whose music is known for its satanic overtones.

Stalker/A-4, Col. 1

Authorities plotting court strategy, may seek death penalty

By Chris Woodyard
Herald staff writer

If Night Stalker suspect Richard Ramirez is charged with more than one count of murder, prosecutors plan to seek the death penalty, the Los Angeles district attorney's chief assistant said yesterday.

The court process the 25-year-old Ramirez may face could prove lengthy. He also may be prosecuted by Orange County and San Francisco authorities following any Los Angeles County verdict.

Ramirez spent his first full day behind bars yesterday, one day after the hue and cry through the streets of East Los Angeles that led to his capture by angry citizens.

"He's in a one-person module in a high-security area under constant observation" at Men's Central Jail, said sheriff's Sgt. Michael Kenyon. He said observation didn't constitute a "suicide watch."

While Ramirez is held without bail for investigation of murder, detectives were working with prosecutors on the filing of additional charges involving the 16 deaths linked to the Night Stalker, Kenyon said.

"In terms of counts, that's something that will be confirmed when investigators confer with the district attorney," he added.

Chief Assistant District Attorney Gil Garcetti said he will meet tomorrow with District Attorney Ira Reiner and Deputy District Attorney Phil Halpin, assigned to work with the Night Stalker task force, to "get an overview about where we are in making a decision on which crimes will be charged."

Prosecute/A-4, Col. 1

NIGHT STALKER: THE SUSPECT IS CAPTURED

Police ask for help in finding suspect's gun

Stalker/Continued from A-1

■ A city official revealed that Ramirez may have just returned from a trip "out of state" the morning of his capture.

Ramirez, who was being held without bail in the Los Angeles County Men's Central Jail, was under constant observation in a "high security area," said Los Angeles County Sheriff's Sgt. Michael Kenyon.

Ramirez is expected to be arraigned Wednesday by the Los Angeles district attorney's office, said Gil Garcetti, chief assistant district attorney.

Two homicide detectives from San Francisco were at the jail yesterday, presumably as part of the investigations into the killing of 66-year-old Peter Pan, shot to death during a nighttime attack in his San Francisco home. Pan's wife was shot in the head, but survived. No agency would confirm the purpose of the visit, but San Francisco homicide Inspector Frank Falzon said warrants from his jurisdiction for murder, attempted murder and burglary were served on Ramirez.

Authorities said they have not yet determined who owns the Pontiac recovered by police last night. "It may belong to Ramirez somehow," Walls said. "We don't have any record of it being stolen."

The car was spotted near the scene of a July 20 murder in the San Fernando Valley that police have linked to the Night Stalker. Reports that the Pontiac had been seen recently were not true, Walls said.

There was no immediate description of the gun police are seeking other than a "small, dark handgun." But some of the victims in Night Stalker attacks are known to have been shot with .22- and .25-caliber weapons.

Several people who saw Ramirez running through the Hollenbeck area say he had a gun, but he had none when captured. One of the witnesses was Salvador Sanchez, who said he saw a man with a gun in front of his house on Siskiyou Street.

■ In San Francisco, a former roommate who has talked to police said

front pages Saturday morning.

A spokesman for the sheriff's department refused to comment on the report.

Ramirez was seen by a witness shortly after 8 a.m. buying a copy of La Opinion, the Spanish-language daily, in a liquor store at 8th and San Pedro Streets. Just a short walk away at 6th and Los Angeles streets is the Greyhound bus station.

A Greyhound dispatcher said several interstate buses arrived before 8 a.m. Saturday, including one at 7:45 a.m. from El Paso, Texas — Ramirez's hometown.

■ Investigators working on the Night Stalker case have been all but inaccessible to the press, and authorities have been reluctant to release any substantive information.

But yesterday there was an "interview opportunity" with Deputy Andres Ramirez, the young lawman who was the first to put handcuffs on the man police have been seeking for months.

Ramirez, 25, who works out of the department's East Los Angeles station, responded to a "fight in progress" call on Hubbard Street to find four angry residents holding an exhausted, bleeding man to the ground.

When he asked the man his name, the suspect replied simply.

"Ricardo Ramirez," the deputy said.

There's no relation, he added with a smile.

"I checked with my mom and dad and we don't have any relatives in El Paso," Deputy Ramirez said.

■ Ray Garcia, who attended Jefferson High School in El Paso with Ramirez, remembers him as someone who was always in trouble. "He was always up to something," Garcia said. "We thought he was sick. He had this disease — everything would stick to his hand. We called him Ricky the Klepto."

Ramirez was arrested three or four times on theft charges and "was always getting kicked out of school," Garcia recalled. Garcia described Ramirez as a loner in high school who constantly played video games. "The only time I ever saw him was at arcades and the 7-



Jaime and Julio Burgoin of East Hubbard Street, who helped capture the Stalker suspect, hold press conference on their front porch as reporters fire questions at them.

Fame intrudes on E. Hubbard Street

Heroes/Continued from A-

who surrounded Ramirez — two of Burgoin's sons, Jaime and Julio, and Manuel De La Torre — are typical working-class people in a typical, blue-collar East Los Angeles neighborhood.

The four, and another man who struggled with Ramirez, Flastino

None of the four knew until later that they were chasing the man believed to be the Night Stalker.

Manuel and Angelina De La Torre yesterday had a steady stream of well-wishers come by their modest, well-kept duplex.

A man gave the couple a bottle of French champagne, and a couple

ers stood in line in De La Torre's test. back yard to talk to him and his wife.

"I was just defending my wife," he said, adding he was a bit surprised at all the attention.

"I thought the police would get him and I would go home and that would be it," he said.

Instead, the swarm of reporters

and thank everyone involved. "People are calling to thank me and thank everyone involved. They're very relieved," said Jaime, a soft-spoken, unassuming young man.

Jaime said he received a call from a San Diego man who told him he had connections with the CHP

and who offered to write a strong

Ramirez is 'obsessed' with 'satanic' rock.
Ray Garcia, 27, who says he became friends with Ramirez in August, said Ramirez was attracted to the 'satanic' themes in a 1979 album called 'Highway to Hell' by the Australian group AC/DC.
He said Ramirez was so involved in AC/DC music that he had painted on tattooed appendages a symbol associated with devil worship on the palm of one hand.
His favorite song, Garcia said, was 'Night Provoker,' the mockin' lyrics of which include: 'Was that a noise outside, your window or mine? shadow on your blind? You're like a body in a tomb.'
Suspended animation as I slip into your room.'
KABC-TV reported Saturday that postcards and five-pointed stars in a circle have been spray-painted on the walls of some of the Night Stalker victims' homes.
Police have refused to confirm the report, which the station attributed to confidential sources.
However, police had earlier confirmed that a baseball cap with an AC/DC logo was left behind by the killer of David Okazaki, one of the first Night Stalker victims, in a Rosemead condominium March 17.
In another development, Los Angeles officials told the Herald that investigators believe Ramirez had just returned from 'out of state' on the morning of his capture.
Ramirez was unaware of the all-points bulletin for his arrest issued 12 hours earlier, the official said, and that's why he panicked when he saw his picture on newspaper

the mantle of the 'yesterday' with a Subuge Patch doll for their daughter, Amber.
They did what they had to do, they said.
On his last frenetic flight for sleep, Ramirez attempted to flee from another from Anzures, P.R., who then attempted to flee from his four Angelinos in a Mexican town of Jerez, who had been married to Manuel because he attacked a young daughter.
L.A. Torre, Manuel De la Torre, who hit Ramirez at least two or three times with a metal rod, works in a furniture factory. Nervous in interviews Saturday, Manuel seemed more relaxed yesterday, as reports
Jose Burgoon went to Ramirez, been married to Manuel since they attacked a young daughter.
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Detective Greg Flannery said the two men in the agency are investigating the killings in Montclair, about 20 miles from downtown Los Angeles.
Ramirez was arrested Saturday in East Los Angeles after residents chased him through their yards before he was captured. He is being held without bail at the Los Angeles County Men's Central Jail.
The killings in Montclair, about 20 miles from downtown Los Angeles, occurred between 730 and 750 a.m. Ramirez was first spotted in East J.A. before 8 a.m.
Other people in the Montclair house slept through the attack and were unharmed, police said.
Flannery said that at least one of them was intoxicated. He also said the killer may have muffled the sound of his gun with a blanket or a pillow.
Although the intruder rummaged through one bedroom, he did not steal anything, Flannery said. Police do not have a motive for the murders.
An autopsy, expected to be completed Wednesday, will help investigators narrow the period during which the killing could have taken place, Flannery said. The autopsy also will help investigators determine the sort of pistol with which the victims were shot in the

day evening made it difficult for him and his wife to entertain her, family members and friends who came over for their daughter's 17th birthday party.
Across the street yesterday, Jose Burgoon, 29, was born in the California region of Mexico and immigrated to the United States in the 1950s. He worked in construction for 25 years and now lives on his own. His wife died four years ago. He took two of his three kids to the park yesterday afternoon.
When he arrived home, he was immediately surrounded by reporters. He politely answered questions outside his home, then went inside.
The problem HOPF was one of the most difficult to solve. The project was abandoned after placing just seven clients.
Project to find HOPF is abandoned after placing just seven clients.

Prosecutors planning strategy
Prosecutors/Continued from page 1
minute leads may complicate the problems of filing charges, he said.
There are some things we are not ready by the time we make our decision.
If past serial killing cases are any indication, the proceedings could wind through the courts for years.
Angelo Bugno, who joined Konrad Ramirez could face execution or life in prison without possibility of parole if prosecutors file under and young woman in 1977-78, spent five years in court before finally being found guilty. Ramirez also ing provision for multiple murders took two years.
If there's more than one murder, William Bonin, the 'Freeway Killer,' was arrested in 1969, but it took years to appeal his conviction. In this year, Ramirez was found inside the Montclair home and there was no connection with the slayings of the two boys and young men.

Police task force may probe double homicide in Montclair
By Jeff Guthe
Herald staff writer
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Low clouds in the night through mid-morning hours, otherwise fair today and Wednesday. Highs in the low to mid-80s, with lows in the 60s.

— Full report, Page A-2

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Crossword	C5	Race	D1
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Notices	C4	TV Listings	B3

PASADENA, CALIFORNIA, TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 1985

Stalker suspect to be arraigned today

Suspect described as a loner

Associated Press

Those who know Richard Ramirez, arrested in the "Night Stalker" serial killings, describe him as a loner whose years as a high school dropout were punctuated with minor run-ins with police.

Ramirez, 25, booked for investigation of murder in connection with 16 Night Stalker slayings

and 21 assaults, grew up in a poor section of El Paso, Texas, about a half-mile from the Mexican border.

He was the youngest of five children born to Julian and Mercedes Ramirez, described by neighbors as traditional, strict and sometime uncompromising parents.

By junior high school, Ramirez used marijuana frequently and was a devoted fan of heavy metal music, blasting his neighborhood with his Black Sabbath records, the Daily News of Los Angeles reported Monday.

"He was always talking about

Please see SUSPECT, Back page, this section



RICHARD RAMIREZ
... suspect in killings

Police will file one or two charges

By JIM RANQUADA
Staff Writer

After spending the weekend under lock guard in an isolation cell, the man suspected of being the Night Stalker serial killer will likely be arraigned today on at least one count of murder, officials said Monday.

Richard Ramirez, 25, who was chased, beaten and captured by

East Los Angeles residents Saturday when he tried to steal a car, will probably face further charges after his arraignment today, Sheriff's Det. Frank Salerno said.

"We will file one or two cases, because we are fighting a time element, but we will continue our investigation on into this month — however long it takes — and file more charges as evidence comes to light," Salerno said.

Ramirez, who is being held without possibility of bail, has not yet made any statements to police, the detective said.

Salerno declined to comment on reports Ramirez has been linked to Satanic activities, in-

cluding mutilation of some victims and symbols of satanic worship scrawled on the walls of some of the victims' homes.

"We will not make any comment on evidence we have found or have not found," he said.

According to unattributed published reports, the words "Jack the knife" — a song lyric by a rock band named Judas Priest — were scrawled on the walls of the San Francisco house where the Night Stalker is believed to have killed Peter Pan, an accountant, and wounded his wife.

In the meantime, investiga-

Please see STALKER, Back page, this section

Stalker: Arraignment set today

Continued from Page A-1

tors who worked through the long Labor Day weekend appealed to the public to help them find a small-caliber gun they believe was used in some of the 16 killings attributed to the killer since February.

Witnesses who spotted Ramirez as he fled through East Los Angeles Saturday saw him with a gun, but the 25-year-old drifter was unarmed when he was captured by angry residents, said Deputy Lynda Edmonds of the Sheriff's Information Bureau.

Both Edmonds and Salerno declined to comment on published reports that investigators have recovered a second gun allegedly used by Ramirez.

A 1976 Pontiac Grand Prix allegedly used by Ramirez during several assaults was being examined closely in an undisclosed location after being discovered Sunday by Sheriff's investigators in Lincoln Heights, Edmonds said.

Investigators are also looking into the possibility that Ramirez spent some time in Phoenix, Ariz., before returning to Los Angeles by bus a few hours before his capture, Salerno said.

Ramirez apparently was unaware that he had been named as the prime suspect in the case in a news conference Friday night until he saw his photograph in a newspaper Saturday morning.

"We are not sure, but we think he did (spend some time in Arizona)," Salerno said. "We have asked the Phoenix police to help us look into it."

In the San Bernadino County community of

Montclair, police are continuing their investigation into the killing of two men who were shot in the head by an intruder who entered their home through an unlocked door early Saturday morning, a police spokeswoman said.

The Night Stalker's victims were shot, beaten, stabbed or had their throats cut by an assailant who crept into homes through unlocked doors or windows in the early morning hours.

However, the Night Stalker task force formed by the Sheriff's and the Los Angeles Police departments has not yet included the Montclair slayings in its investigation.

"We haven't been out to Montclair because it doesn't look like they're related," Salerno said.

While Los Angeles investigators remained reluctant to discuss the evidence they have amassed, Lompoc Police Chief J.D. Smith called a press conference Monday to announce that jewelry stolen in San Francisco and in Lompoc provided a crucial link in the case.

Four days before Ramirez's identity was publicly announced, Lompoc police received a tip from a local resident who said her family had purchased a bracelet and ring from an old family acquaintance named Rick, Smith said.

The family acquaintance resembled the police description of the Night Stalker and had been in the San Francisco area at the time a 66-year-old accountant was slain and his wife shot by an early-morning intruder, the tipster told police.

Fingerprints on the jewelry, stolen two days before the accountant's murder, identified the friend as Ramirez, Smith said.

Stalker Suspect Isn't Talking

**Ramirez Described as
Passive and Compliant**

By ROBERT W. STEWART
and DAVID FREED,
Times Staff Writers

Night Stalker suspect Richard Ramirez has remained silent during detectives' questioning about 16 slayings and 21 assaults that in recent weeks sowed fear from Mission Viejo to San Francisco, authorities told The Times on Sunday.

"He's not talking," one law enforcement source said of Ramirez, 25, who was chased, clubbed and captured Saturday by angry East Los Angeles residents after he allegedly tried to steal a car in their Hubbard Street neighborhood.

Ramirez, whose most distinctive feature is rotting teeth, was spotted about 12 hours after authorities identified him as the Night Stalker suspect and released a mug shot to newspapers and television stations.

Law enforcement officials who have observed the 6-foot, 1-inch, 155-pound suspect since his arrest described him Sunday as passive and compliant and said he has not confessed to the crimes.

Booked on suspicion of one unspecified murder, Ramirez is being held without bail in a high-security section of Los Angeles County Jail where he is under constant surveillance, a Sheriff's Department official said. Originally from El Paso,

Please see RAMIREZ, Page 16

RAMIREZ: Suspect, Passive and Compliant, Won't Talk to Authorities

Continued from Page 1

Ramirez has reportedly lived in the Los Angeles area in recent years.

Investigators from the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, which coordinated the investigation, met Sunday and will meet again today with officials of the Los Angeles County district attorney's office to "discuss what evidence they have and the specific charges that will be considered," said Chief Deputy Dist. Atty. Gilbert I. Garcetti.

He said he anticipates a decision on "what if any charges will be filed" by late Tuesday.

Based on the information available, Garcetti said, he anticipates that Ramirez will be charged with at least one crime, although he said he could not be more specific. Authorities are required to release a suspect or file charges after he has been held for two court days.

"There are some things they (investigators) are still working on, which by the time we make our decision they hope to have," Garcetti said, refusing to elaborate.

Deputy Dist. Atty. Philip Halpin of the special trials unit has been assigned to review the evidence and, if charges are filed, prosecute the case, Garcetti said. Halpin has been working for about a month with the law enforcement task force that has investigated the killings.

Meanwhile, the Sheriff's Department reported that one important bit of physical evidence has been

found and that another remains missing.

Ramirez's automobile, a green 1978 Pontiac, was found Sunday parked in the 100 block of East Avenue 23 in Lincoln Heights, a sheriff's spokesman said.

Another sheriff's spokesman asked the public's help in finding a pistol believed to belong to the suspect.

Sheriff's Lt. Dick Walls said neighbors who helped to capture Ramirez after a chase in East Los Angeles reported that he was carrying a small-caliber handgun of the type known to have been used in several of the Night Stalker murders.

That gun was not in Ramirez's possession when he was taken into custody, and a search by deputies armed with metal detectors failed to disclose any trace of it. Walls asked any person having knowledge of the weapon to call the sheriff's homicide division at (213) 974-4341.

Obsession With Song

A Northern California man who said he attended school with Ramirez in El Paso was quoted in Sunday's edition of the San Francisco Examiner as saying that Ramirez was obsessed with what he believed to be satanic themes in the music of the rock group AC/DC's 1979 album "Highway to Hell."

More than once, authorities said, they have found satanic symbols scrawled on walls in the homes of victims.

The classmate, Ray Garcia, 27, told the Examiner that Ramirez had either painted or tattooed a pentagram on the palm of one hand. A pentagram is a five-sided star believed by some to symbolize the devil's horns.

Garcia also described Ramirez as a "junk food addict."

"All he would ever eat were chocolates and Pepsi," Garcia was quoted as saying. "He would never brush his teeth. I used to tell him to close his mouth or brush his teeth."

The killings and assaults that authorities have attributed to the Night Stalker began early this year but were not publicly linked until Aug. 8. Most of the attacks occurred in the San Gabriel and San Fernando valleys, although the two most recent incidents occurred elsewhere.

Two Bodies Found

Police in Montclair, about 32 miles east of Los Angeles, said they are not discounting the possibility that the Night Stalker might have killed his 17th and 18th victims early Saturday, just hours before Ramirez's arrest.

The bodies of two men who had been shot to death were found in their home in the suburban San Bernardino County community after a party.

"There's been a whole lot of speculation," Sgt. Greg Flannery of the Montclair Police Department said of a possible connection. "We're not discounting it as being a possibility. We're also not pursuing

it as a sole (theory)," he added.

No satanic markings were found in the Montclair home, Flannery said.

Although most of the Night Stalker crimes occurred in Los Angeles County, authorities in Orange County suspect that the same person committed an Aug. 25 shooting and rape in Mission Viejo.

The man shot in that incident was reported in improved condition Sunday. A spokeswoman for Mission Community Hospital said that William Carns, 29, who had been in critical condition with a gunshot wound in his head, had been upgraded to "serious but stable condition" although he remained unconscious.

Fingerprints lifted from a stolen car spotted near the scene of the

Mission Viejo attack and found at the scene of a routine burglary in San Francisco on Aug. 15 led Los Angeles and San Francisco authorities to identify Ramirez as the Night Stalker suspect.

San Francisco police, who are taking credit for first identifying Ramirez, suspect him of at least one murder and a burglary in their community. San Francisco investigators arrived in Los Angeles on Sunday, said Deputy Mike Kenyon of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department. Kenyon said he does not know if they questioned Ramirez.

James G. Enright, Orange County's chief deputy district attorney, said Sunday that he expects that Los Angeles County authorities will make a decision on filing

criminal charges in their jurisdiction before contacting Orange County authorities about charges there.

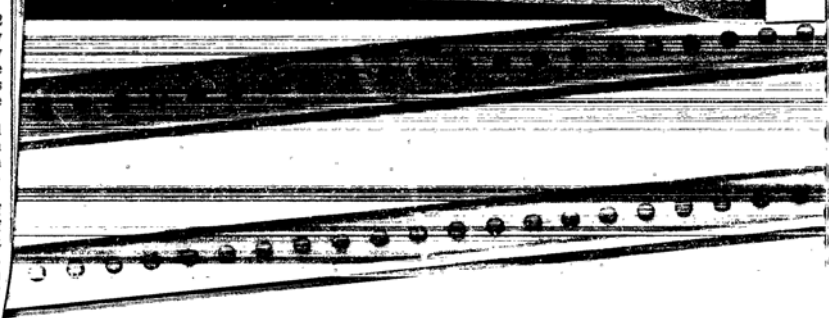
No one was sure, meanwhile, who would get the \$70,000 reward offered for Ramirez's capture.

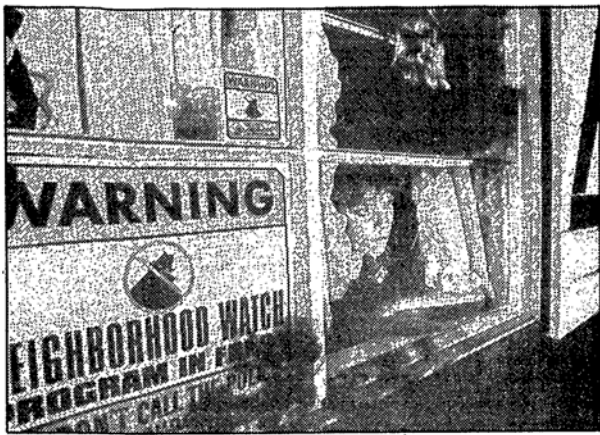
Various authorities have speculated that all the people who took part in the chase that led to his arrest might be eligible; others that it might belong to those who identified him or to individuals who physically restrained Ramirez before sheriff's deputies arrived.

It was suggested that the Sheriff's Department might have to make the decision.

Deputy Rick Adams of the sheriff's information bureau said Sunday night that no such determination had yet been requested.

Roof Fire Season is Year Round!





MONICA ALMEIDA

Shanna Campbell taking her turn at watching for Night Stalker in Monterey Park: "I thought it would be tiring, but it isn't."

Night of Stalker Has a Thousand Eyes

Neighbors in Monterey Park Take Turns Keeping a Wary Watch

By SUE AVERY, Times Staff Writer

The Night Stalker is keeping Shanna Campbell and some of her Monterey Park neighbors awake at night.

Instead of getting a full night's sleep, Campbell stays up late or gets up in the middle of the night to take her turn sitting at the window of her home, watching for the serial killer.

Campbell is one of a growing group of Monterey Park residents, mobilized by fear, who have joined the Police Department's Operation Night Watch. They stand guard over the community of 54,000, where at least six of the more than

30 slayings, rapes and assaults attributed to the suspect have occurred.

"I thought it would be tiring but it isn't, and I have five children," said Campbell, a housewife who splits a two-hour nightly Night Watch shift with her husband, Deryl. The Campbells are part of a neighborhood unit that rotates shifts so that at least one observer is on duty between 10 p.m. to 6 a.m.

"It's easier than it was when I was getting up with babies. Maybe that is because I have a bunch of neighbors counting on me," Shanna Campbell said. "The hardest part is

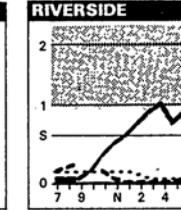
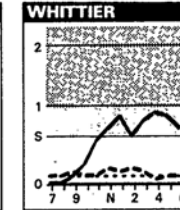
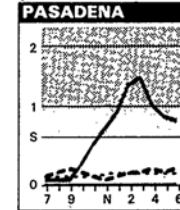
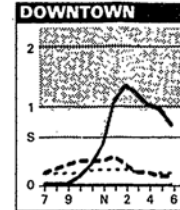
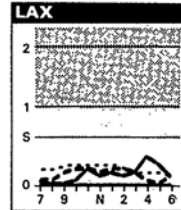
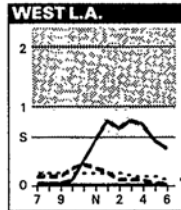
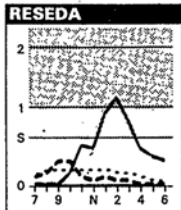
staring out the window, but I can do other things while I am watching. Last night, I hemmed a pair of pants."

Campbell is typical of hundreds of other Monterey Park residents who have rallied behind the Police Department's effort to catch the Night Stalker.

"While staying up at night could be a hardship on people who work during the day," said Lt. Joe Santoro of the Monterey Park Police Department, "the truth is that a lot of people are up anyway because they are so nervous and upset they

Please see WATCH, Page 6

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Air Quality Management District



WATCH: Night Has Thousand Wakening Eyes

Continued from Page 1

can't sleep, and this gives them the opportunity to do something.

"This gives us at least 200 more sets of eyes on the community during the time the suspect tends to strike."

Under the program—an extension of the city's Neighborhood Watch program, which covers an estimated 25% of the city's 20,000 households—residents take turns observing their immediate neighborhoods, poised to alert police to suspicious activity.

Santoro, the department's community relations officer, said he has not heard of any other city that has mobilized residents in the middle of the night. He and another lieutenant formulated the idea after Police Chief Jon Elder asked for suggestions as to what else, beyond normal operations, the department might do to catch the Stalker, Santoro said.

Although none of the Operation Night Watch volunteers has spotted the Night Stalker, the two-week-old program has begun to pay off in other ways.

Increase Night Shift

As part of the program, the department has more than tripled the number of officers on the overnight shift, and police response time has consequently been cut to an average of 45 seconds per call. Over the last two months, the number of residential burglaries has dropped by 30% to 35%, officials said.

And more suspects are being caught, Santoro said. On one recent night, for example, a homeowner reported a prowler in the backyard. The police responded quickly and caught three juveniles, who were booked for trespassing, prowling and resisting arrest.

In addition to the extra officers, the Police Department has activated its Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service, a group of reserve officers who sit in marked cars and radio in suspicious activities and vehicles.

Observers have been provided with composite drawings and a description of the Night Stalker, a white or Latino man, age 30 to 35, with brown curly hair, brown eyes, and about 6 feet tall, weighing 150 pounds. He is noted for having

badly stained, gapped teeth.

"I have set up a unit system, dividing my territory into five units," said Tom Yamate, a block captain responsible for 34 households.

"In my unit there are four households, and I am trying to establish two-hour shifts," Yamate said. "I don't want people watching longer (because of the fatigue factor)."

Shares With Sister

Another observer, Evelyn Odachi, shares her two-hour shift with her sister so that each observes every other night.

"Even though I work all day, I don't get too tired," said Odachi, who works in an office downtown. "I'm doing it because it is important. I hope someday one of us calls (the police) and they catch the right person. In this instance it is worth it."

At a recent gathering, Kathi Iacono, a uniformed police community service officer, told residents that the Police Department had received several calls from homeowners reporting the presence of unusual people and cars in the area. They turned out to be plainclothesmen in unmarked cars.

"There are still people who don't want to get involved," Iacono said. "But here there are no more noisy neighbors, just concerned citizens."

"When he is caught we will disband Operation Night Watch," Santoro said. "But we hope people will have learned on a permanent basis to be more observant and to be more willing to phone the police when they notice anything suspicious."

Man Shot by Stalker Gains

A 29-year-old Mission Viejo man, critically wounded Sunday in what is believed to be the most recent attack of the so-called Night Stalker, appeared to be improving Friday at an Orange County hospital.

A spokesman at Mission Community Hospital in Mission Viejo said William Carns remains on the critical list but has been taken off a respirator and is breathing on his own.

Carns reportedly was shot in the head three times by an intruder who entered his bedroom and raped his 29-year-old fiancée.

Meanwhile, the Los Angeles Police Department on Friday continued to decline requests for any information on two additional murder cases that the department says have been linked to the Stalker series.

BRING HOME THE BACON WITH OUR PIGSKIN PICK 'EM/C-5

Tuesday
September 3, 1985

Morning final.
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Los Angeles Herald Examiner

LOS ANGELES HERALD

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EXAMINER

IN STYLE:
OLD SHOWS
PROVE TO BE
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JOHNSTONE
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'ORBIT' TAKES
OFF OUT OF
THIS WORLD
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NIGHT-STALKER CASE

Police downplay role of satanism in murder spree

By Andy Furillo
and Chris Woodyard
Herald staff writers

As criminal charges were being prepared for filing in the Night Stalker multiple murder case, officials yesterday downplayed the role of satanism as a possible motive behind the 16 grisly slayings that terrorized California.

Meanwhile, it was disclosed yesterday that the fingerprints of Richard Ramirez, the suspect in the series of murders from the Bay Area to Orange County, were found in the home of the Night Stalker's final murder victim in San Francisco.

In Los Angeles, investigators continued their search for the

gun Ramirez may have used, while a sheriff's team of criminologists combed a car found Sunday that the suspect is believed to have driven.

As for the case's satanic overtones, one law enforcement source close to the Night Stalker investigation said that symbols such as inverted pentagrams were discovered only "at a couple" of locations in which Ramirez allegedly shot, raped, sodomized and mutilated his victims.

"But they certainly weren't at all (locations)," the source said. "I think you (the press) are going off on the wrong tangent."

Another law enforcement source suggested that the Night

Stalker/B-8, Col. 1

Detectives minimize Stalker's 'satanism'

Stalker/Continued from A-1

Stalker committed the crimes simply to satisfy his own demented sense of pleasure.

"This guy liked what he was doing and wanted to do as much as possible," this source said.

This source also confirmed the discovery of satanic symbols at some homes that were invaded by the Night Stalker, but indicated that the pentagrams were left behind primarily as "a calling card."

"Look at Berkowitz," this source said, referring to David Berkowitz, the so-called Son of Sam killer who claimed that demons who had possessed his neighbor's dog prodded him into killing his six victims in the New York City area in 1977.

"He was a (con) artist, too. He liked to make people think he was talking to a dog. But he copped out on that. You see a lot of stuff at a lot of these scenes."

As for the Night Stalker slayings, this source said that they were among the most brutal he has ever seen.

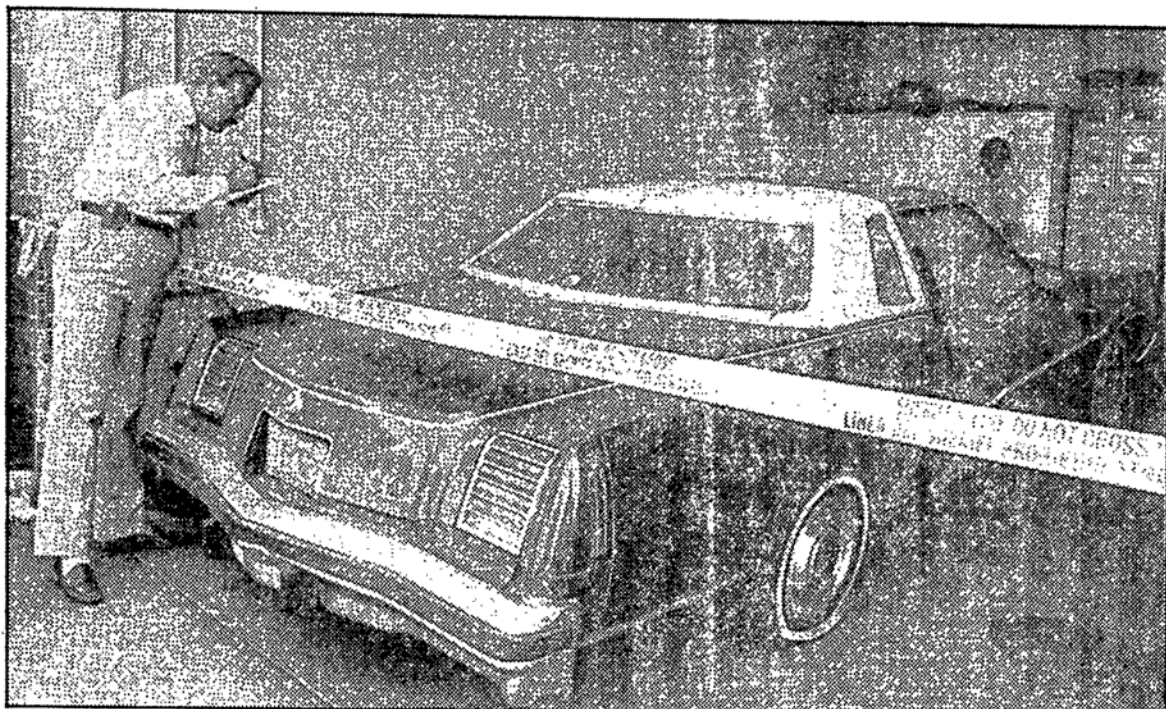
Deputy District Attorney Philip Halpin, the prosecutor assigned to the Night Stalker case, said that the overtones of satanism have not been raised in discussions he has had with investigators who are working the case.

"It's one of those exotic things," Halpin said. "But it doesn't take up a lot of our time. We're more concerned with the hard facts."

Investigators worked around the clock yesterday and Sunday to put those facts together for the first of the murder cases that are expected to be filed in Los Angeles Municipal Court against the 25-year-old Ramirez.

"We're under a legal obligation to arraign him in a timely manner," Halpin said, referring to Ramirez's constitutional right to have charges filed against him within two court days of his Saturday arrest or be set free.

Ramirez's arraignment, then, must take place before tomorrow, and Halpin said that thanks to the



A green 1976 Pontiac Grand Prix, believed to have been used by the Night Stalker, is inspected by police in East Los Angeles.

monumental effort on the part of the multiagency Night Stalker task force since the suspect's arrest, he probably will be able to file at least one of the 16 homicide cases against Ramirez sometime today.

"The bulk of this thing will have to come later," Halpin said. "A lot of our scientific evidence is still coming in."

That evidence will take the form of bullet comparisons, firearm comparisons and possibly some fingerprints found at some of the murder locations, Halpin said.

Investigators yesterday continued their search for a crucial piece of evidence in the case — a gun that Ramirez may have thrown away Saturday during his unsuccessful dash for freedom through East Los Angeles.

A detective who walked through the yard of a home that fronts Esperanza Street on the East Side said authorities would probably be back again to take a closer look for the weapon, a small caliber handgun that investigators say is desperately needed to connect Ramirez to some of the slayings.

Ramirez was seen running with a gun Saturday by Salvador Chavez on Siskiyou Street in the Hollenbeck area of East Los Angeles. Chavez said he saw Ramirez run north into an alley that runs parallel with Esperanza Street.

The suspect was next spotted — without a gun, according to witnesses — running through a yard

that includes three duplexes, including the one fronting on Esperanza Street, where Johnny Morales' large dog chased Ramirez.

Residents of the East Side community eventually captured Ramirez and held him until sheriff's deputies arrived.

The Los Angeles County sheriff's department forensic team spent most of yesterday morning examining a green 1976 Pontiac Grand Prix believed to have been driven by Ramirez that was discovered Sunday in Lincoln Heights.

Results of the examination were not available by late last night. Investigators apparently were looking for fingerprints and possibly some traces of blood.

The disclosure that Ramirez's fingerprints were discovered in the home of the Night Stalker's murder victim in San Francisco came in a press release issued yesterday by Chief J.D. Smith of the Lompoc Police Department.

Smith said that an unidentified resident of the northern Santa Barbara County community helped provide San Francisco police with a positive identification of Ramirez. The tip allowed the Bay Area investigators to trace a fingerprint lifted from the suspected Night Stalker slaying in the Bay Area to the suspect.

Smith said that the unidentified citizen contacted Lompoc police on Aug. 26 and said that members of her family who were in the San

Francisco area five days earlier had learned that "an old family acquaintance named Rick" was in the Bay Area on Aug. 17, the day that Peter Pan, 66, the last of the Night Stalker's murder victims, was slain.

The Lompoc woman told police that "Rick's" appearance matched the composite drawing of the Night Stalker that had been distributed throughout the state, Smith said.

In addition, Smith said the woman told authorities her family members had obtained a bracelet from "Rick" that had been stolen in an Aug. 15 burglary in the Marina district of San Francisco — two days before the Pan homicide.

Lompoc police forwarded the information to the San Francisco Police Department homicide investigators, who termed the disclosure "a very hot lead," according to Smith.

A reinterview with the Lompoc informant by Sgt. Harry Heidt of the city's police department turned up the names of some Bay Area residents who then provided San Francisco detectives with "Rick's" complete name — Richard Ramirez.

In Phoenix, police Sgt. Dean Benson said yesterday that LAPD detectives attempting to trace Ramirez's movements in the days before his capture have told him that the suspected Night Stalker was in the Arizona city just a few days before his arrest on Saturday.

Herald staff writer Ruben Castaneda contributed to this story.

Fair today and Tuesday except for late night and early morning low clouds. Highs today should be in the mid- to upper 80s and the lows in the mid-60s.

— Full report, Page A-2

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PASADENA, CALIFORNIA, MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 1985

Relief and wariness

Despite the capture, many still on guard

By SELWYN EIBER
Staff Writer

Most local residents vowed Sunday to keep up their newly employed security measures even though a Night Stalker suspect has been captured, in part because several fear someone might commit "copycat killings."

"Hopefully no one will get any ideas about copycat killings. I know this happens," said Mark Aldrian of Monrovia.

"There's been kind of a paranoid feeling around the neighborhood since a lot of the newspaper coverage," he added, although now people are feeling better.

Maureen Theiss of Arcadia, who will continue to lock her door and windows and put a light on at night, said, "I'm apprehensive as to when the next one might happen."

After having recently watched a television program on serial murders, Theiss is convinced "it'll happen again."

But both Aldrian and Theiss, along with

Please see RESIDENTS,
Back page, this section



SALLY THROOP
... relief at Stalker suspect's capture

Finally, a quiet day for police

Ramirez kept in isolation

By SELWYN EIBER
Staff Writer

As the suspected Night Stalker spent his second day in jail, local police departments said Sunday they were glad to return to the normal routine.

Before the Saturday morning arrest of Richard Ramirez, who is allegedly the Night Stalker, local police departments had fielded a seeming endless string of telephone calls from nervous people offering information about the serial murderer. Many of the 16 killings occurred in the San Gabriel Valley.

Now the telephones are a lot quieter.

"Today it's almost boring," said a happy Lt. Howard Piland of the Arcadia Police Department. "It makes us feel very good." He noted that there had been about 20 to 30 telephone calls a shift concerning the Night Stalker.

Lt. Patrick Hardy of the Monrovia Police Department said he received only a couple of calls Sunday from people "who just wanted to reassure themselves" that the Stalker was caught. "They wanted to hear from someone in person."

In other developments regarding the arrest of Ramirez:

■ The suspect is in isolation in Los Angeles County central jail, and is "being kept away from the main jail population for obvious security reasons," said Sgt. Michael Kenyon of the county sheriff's department.

■ A 1976 Pontiac Grand Prix allegedly used by Ramirez was found by Los Angeles County Sheriff's investigators Sunday evening in the Lincoln Heights section of Los Angeles. The sheriff's department has confirmed that the car allegedly was used by Ramirez several times during assaults, Deputy Rick Adams said.

■ Pasadena police confirmed that Ramirez was arrested by South Pasadena police in 1981 and charged with petty theft.

■ Symbols of devil worship were found in homes of Night Stalker victims, according to news reports, and a former classmate of Ramirez says the suspect was obsessed with satanic themes.

■ The task force probing the killings will meet with Montclair police Tuesday to determine if the early Saturday slayings of two men are connected to the Stalker case.

■ The sheriff's deputy who arrested Ramirez downplayed his role and credited the citizens who captured the suspect.

Several citizens in East Los

Please see STALKER,
Back page, this section

Stalker: Ramirez isolated

Continued from Page A-1

Angeles chased, beat and captured Ramirez and held him until police arrived. Ramirez's head was bandaged when he was arrested, but Kenyon of the sheriff's department was unsure what kind of medical treatment he received.

Police have said Ramirez has a "lightweight" criminal background that includes the petty theft charge in South Pasadena. Pasadena police are aware of the arrest because the case was tried in Pasadena Superior Court, said Pasadena Cadet Robert Blume in the records department.

Blume did not know any other details or if Ramirez was convicted.

A South Pasadena Police Department spokeswoman said no one was available Sunday to comment on the arrest.

Ramirez reportedly has a

record of committing several non-violent crimes in Los Angeles and Alhambra. Neither county sheriff nor Alhambra spokesmen would comment on this.

Regarding news reports of the Stalker and devil worship, pentagrams, which are five-pointed stars associated with witchcraft and devil worship, reportedly were painted on some of the victims' walls.

A baseball cap with the logo "AC-DC," the name of a heavy metal rock group, was found in the Rosemead condominium where a 35-year-old woman was shot to death on March 17.

To some people, AC-DC stands for "Anti-Christ, Devil's Child."

A former classmate of Ramirez, Ray Garcia, was quoted as saying that Ramirez was obsessed with satanic themes in AC-DC's 1979 album, "Highway

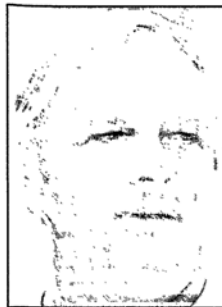
to Hell." The album covers shows a band member dressed as the devil, while another wears a pentagram-shaped pendant.

Sheriff's spokesman would not comment on any satanic link to the Stalker crimes.

In the slayings in Montclair, an intruder entered the unlocked home between 4:30 a.m. and 7:30 a.m. and shot two men. The Night Stalker supposedly entered his victim's homes through unlocked doors and windows. Ramirez was arrested at about 9 a.m.

At a Los Angeles press conference Sunday, the sheriff's deputy who arrested Ramirez downplayed his role.

"I'm not a hero," said Deputy Andres Ramirez, who is not related to the suspect. "My work was already done. I just put the handcuffs on him. The citizens did the physical work."



PHIL LOUNGWAY
... 'sickos out there'



MARK ALDRIAN
... 'paranoid feeling'



PAT KYLE
... give him gas chamber

Residents: Many remain wary

Continued from Page A-1

residents who live near homes where police believe the Stalker has struck, were smiling broadly after learning that authorities had arrested the chief suspect.

The Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department on Saturday arrested 25-year-old Richard Ramirez, who spokesman allege is the man responsible for killing 16 people during the past seven months. Ramirez was captured by East Los Angeles residents who held him for police.

"This is just one. You never know what's coming up next," Sally Throop of Monrovia said.

Throop said she has tried to make her home safer by "training the kids not to open the door" right away, but instead to "look out the window first." Throop's children will continue to do this, she said, because "it's a good lesson for them just to be aware."

"I think it's great that he's been caught," Sue Momjian of Arcadia said. "It's a great relief for everyone around here."

Like several residents inter-

viewed, Momjian said "my electric bill's gone up a lot" because she's been using her air conditioning often and keeping her windows shut. The Stalker entered homes through open doors or windows.

Since the Stalker began his killing spree, including several attacks in the San Gabriel Valley, Momjian said, "I don't let my daughter outside without me."

However, despite her fear, Momjian said she refused to buy a gun. "I won't have a loaded gun in the house with a 5-year-old," she said.

Regarding the fate of Ramirez, several residents said he should be sentenced to die in the state's gas chamber if he is found guilty of the murders.

"Put the s.o.b. in the gas chamber if they can prove that he's the one," said Pat Kyle of Arcadia. "There's no sense feeding him for years."

"I hope they give him the death penalty quick if they can prove it was him," said Phil Loungway of Monrovia. "There are more sickos out there," and the serial killer might "spur somebody else to

start."

Added Loungway, "I wish I could have been the one who got him." He noted that he's been "watching around the neighborhood to make sure nobody's around here who's not supposed to be."

One Monrovia resident, who asked not to be identified, said Ramirez's arrest is "a little bit of a relief. But it's a pessimistic belief."

"He's caught, but what's going to happen to him?" the man said.

"We have a death penalty in the state of California," but the man said it is possible that a convicted Stalker may only be given jail time, leaving open the possibility of parole.

Reflecting on the fact that she put locks on her doors and windows after hearing about the area murders, Theiss said, "It's a sad commentary on the way society is."

She recalled growing up 15 years ago and being in a house where her mother always left the doors unlocked. Now, Theiss said, her mother "has the most elaborate alarm and lock system."

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LOS ANGELES HERALD

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EXAMINER

Ramirez charged as Stalker

**DA sifting
'mountain of
evidence' for
more counts**

By Andy Furillo
and Mark S. Warnick
Herald staff writers

Bobbing and weaving to avoid a battery of cameras, Richard Ramirez was formally charged with murder and seven other crimes yesterday in his first court appearance as the suspected Night Stalker.

And, according to District Attorney Ira Reiner, those charges probably will not be the last filed against the 25-year-old drifter in an investigation focusing on 14 slayings and at least 28 other attacks.

"A mountain of evidence" will be analyzed for other murder charges, Reiner said.

Ramirez was arraigned for the May 14 murder of Monterey Park resident William Doi and seven other counts, including the attack on Doi's wife. He also was charged with the May 9 burglary-robbery of a woman identified only as Clara Hadsell of Monrovia.

"There are a number of homicides, attempted homicides, sexual assaults, burglaries and robberies that are under investigation," Reiner said at a news conference before Ramirez's arraignment.

"We have sufficient evidence to convince us that the majority of these crimes were, in fact, committed by the same person. However, I would caution you that not all of these cases are necessarily attributable to the same person."

Reiner said that additional charges will be filed against Ramirez within the next two weeks "assuming the evidence warrants."

Ramirez said only three words during the brief arraignment as Deputy District Attorney P. Philip Halpin read the charges.

"Yes," the suspect answered when Halpin asked him if Richard Ramirez is his true name. Ramirez also replied "yes" two more times, when asked if he agreed to withhold entering his plea and to waive his right to a preliminary hearing



Flanked by court-appointed attorneys, Night Stalker suspect Richard Ramirez bows his head during arraignment proceedings.



A Los Angeles County sheriff's deputy escorts Night Stalker suspect Richard Ramirez from the courthouse after arraignment.

More charges expected to be filed against Ramirez

Stalker/Continued from A-1

within 10 days.

His next court date was set for Sept. 9. Ramirez is being held without bail.

In addition to the Los Angeles County charges, the San Francisco district attorney's office announced yesterday that murder charges and four other criminal counts have been filed against him, stemming from an Aug. 17 attack in the Bay Area.

Authorities have said that as many as 16 murders have been linked to the Night Stalker. Sheriff's Sgt. Frank Salerno, the head of a task force investigating the Night Stalker attacks, which he said began in early February, said at Reiner's news conference that his agency is only looking at 14 homicides. Two other murders may be linked, but are not yet considered Stalker cases, police have said.

Reiner did not say exactly how many charges would be filed against the suspect.

"I don't think it would be conducive to the investigation... at this time to nail down the exact number" of cases that comprise the Night Stalker probe, Reiner said.

In another development yesterday, Los Angeles County Sheriff Sherman Block said that "significant amounts" of property allegedly stolen by the Night Stalker from the homes of his victims have been recovered.

While refusing to identify the property, Block, who spoke to reporters during a ceremony honoring the East Los Angeles residents who captured Ramirez during a chase last Saturday, said that some of the items have been recovered since the suspect was taken into custody.

Block said that during the Night Stalker's intrusions, "In some homes, he took nothing. In some houses, he took a significant (amount) of items."

The property is being inventoried, Block said, adding that search warrants were used to recover the property. He would not say where

investigators discovered the stolen items.

At his arraignment yesterday, Ramirez also was charged with two counts of burglary, two counts of robbery and single counts of rape, sodomy and oral copulation.

The murder and sexual assault charges and single counts each of robbery and burglary were in connection with the May 14 attack on the home of William and Lillie Doi in Monterey Park, Reiner said.

Doi, 65, was shot and killed and his wife was assaulted. Ramirez also allegedly robbed the couple of their jewelry during the attack.

Murder during the course of robbery comprises a "special circumstances" allegation that could result in the death penalty for Ramirez if he is convicted.

Halpin said prosecutors would decide whether to pursue the death penalty against Ramirez after the suspect's preliminary hearing, assuming he is held over for trial.

Additional robbery and burglary charges were filed in connection with the May 9 break-in at the Monrovia residence of Clara Haddell, 85. Cash and jewelry were taken from her home. The elderly woman was not physically assaulted.

Deputy Public Defender David Meyer represented Ramirez yesterday. He said he had spoken to Ramirez before the arraignment, but he refused to characterize the suspect's mood.

Reiner, like other law enforcement sources, also downplayed the significance of satanism as a possible motive behind the Night Stalker murders.

"In my discussions with investigators, I haven't found anybody who has taken that seriously," Reiner said.

Salerno, the lead investigator on the Hillside Strangler murders that gripped Los Angeles in 1977-78, called the Night Stalker case "the most important, most difficult, most complex" he has ever worked.

He said investigators believe that the murder suspect acted alone in the Night Stalker attacks.

The San Francisco murder case was filed against Ramirez in connection with the Aug. 17 slaying of Peter Pan, 66, whose wife, Barbara, also was shot in the attack. Ramirez also was charged with attempted murder, burglary and two counts of robbery, said San Francisco district attorney's office spokeswoman Jean Black.

San Francisco authorities set Ramirez's bail at \$10 million.

The Orange County district attorney's office said its charges against Ramirez probably will be filed early next week. The charges, filed in connection with the Aug. 25 shooting of William Carns, 29, and the rape of his fiancée, likely will include individual counts of burglary, rape and attempted murder, said James Enright, the county's chief deputy district attorney, who added that "we want to make sure we do nothing that would interfere with Los Angeles' case." Carns was seriously wounded in the shooting.

Also yesterday:

■ Investigators from the Night Stalker task force traveled to El Paso, Texas, where Ramirez was born and raised, to compile background information on the suspect, sheriff's spokesman Deputy Joe Garza said.

■ Investigators also denied published reports that a weapon believed used by the Night Stalker had been recovered. "No gun has been found," said one investigator close to the case. "We're trying to locate one."

■ Officials have appealed to the public for help in finding a small-caliber handgun witnesses saw Ramirez carrying during Saturday's chase.

■ Tucson, Ariz., police said they received information that Ramirez telephoned his brother, who lives in the Tucson area, sometime last Friday night. Ramirez's brother told police about the call Saturday, about the time of the suspect's arrest, said Tucson Police Chief Peter Ronstadt. Ramirez's call probably was made from the Tucson area, Ronstadt added.

■ The Lompoc Police Department retracted a press release statement that one of Ramirez's fingerprints was discovered in the home of Pan, the San Francisco murder victim.

Paul Chinn/Herald photographer

Weather: Slightly warmer

Variable clouds but mostly sunny today. Slightly warmer, with highs 68 to 75 and lows 58 to 63. Clear tonight and Friday, but with some fog and low clouds early Friday morning.

— Full report, Page A-2

STAR-NEWS

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PASADENA, CALIFORNIA, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 1985

84 killing linked to Ramirez

Woman had throat cut, police say

By **BRANDON BAILEY**
Staff Writer

Richard Ramirez, the alleged Night Stalker, left his fingerprints at the scene of a slaying last year in which a 79-year-old woman's throat was slashed in her Glassell Park home, police announced Wednesday.

Police in Los Angeles and San Francisco also said they're checking evidence from unsolved murders dating back to 1981, the year South Pasadena police reported the first known arrest of Ramirez in this state.

Ramirez, a 25-year-old transient, was arraigned in a Los Angeles courtroom Tuesday on charges stemming from a Monrovia burglary and a Monterey Park murder — one in the series of 14 killings since March that authorities blamed on the Night Stalker. Authorities said other charges may follow.

No charges have been filed in the 1984 case, which remained unsolved until this week, Los Angeles Police Chief Daryl Gates said at a news conference.

In related developments Wednesday:

■ Gates said Ramirez was stopped by Los Angeles police twice this summer — avoiding arrest both times — as authorities conducted an intensive search for the Night Stalker suspect.

■ San Francisco police are looking closely at three murders that occurred earlier this year, which seem to resemble other Night Stalker killings, homicide Inspector Carl Klotz said.

■ Ramirez has denied killing

Please see **STALKER**,
Page A-5

Stalker: Police link 1984 slaying

Continued from Page A-1

anyone, during a telephone call from jail to his brother, Julian Ramirez, in Texas. The Associated Press quoted Ramirez's sister as saying, "He was laughing. He laughed and then asked (Julian) how was the weather outside. And then he laughed some more and said he didn't do it."

■ Authorities confirmed that a gun was seized in Tijuana by detectives from the Night Stalker task force. Detectives believe Ramirez may have dropped another gun Saturday as he ran from angry residents in East Los Angeles.

Several undisclosed items were found Wednesday by sheriff's cadets who searched the area where Ramirez was chased and caught Saturday morning, said Deputy Richard Shaw.

Gates, meanwhile, said his department was in error last week when it announced the Night Stalker was responsible for 17 murders. Not including the 1984 slaying, the list of killings linked by detectives stands at 14, as reported by Los Angeles Sheriff Sherman Block, Gates said.

While confirming reports that Los Angeles police stopped Ramirez twice without arresting him this summer, Gates defended the officers involved.

Ramirez was stopped on June 15 by a motorcycle officer who thought Ramirez was driving a stolen car that had been described in a police radio broadcast. "The motor officer recognized that he had the suspect in custody, but the suspect ran," Gates said.

The incident occurred before a composite sketch of the Night Stalker suspect had been prepared.

The Daily News in Van Nuys reported that a dentist's appointment card was found

in that car, leading detectives to the information that Ramirez had sought treatment for his badly decaying teeth.

On Aug. 26, the day after police believe the Night Stalker attacked a couple in Mission Viejo, a Los Angeles officer stopped Ramirez for driving a motorcycle without a license, Gates said.

Although the composite was widely circulated by that time, the officer simply didn't recognize Ramirez, Gates said. That was regrettable, the chief said, "but I don't think you can criticize the officer."

Gates' comments came after he announced detectives Tuesday matched Ramirez's fingerprints to prints taken from a ground-floor apartment in Glassell Park, where the body of Jennie Vincow, 79, was discovered by her son on June 28, 1984.

Vincow's throat was slashed and she had other knife wounds. The fingerprint "places Ramirez at the scene," Gates said.

Fingerprints helped link Ramirez to the Monrovia burglary, according to police. But authorities declined comment on a report that the gun seized in Tijuana helped connect Ramirez to the murder of Monterey Park resident William Doi.

Now that authorities have Ramirez's prints and other evidence, detectives are searching through unsolved cases dating back to 1981, when the El Paso, Texas, native was first arrested in California.

Ramirez was arrested on April 16, 1981, in South Pasadena, after a security guard at Ralph's Market on Garfield Avenue observed a young man lifting a wallet from a customer's purse.

Police reported that Ramirez said he was living in a friend's car and took the wallet because he was hungry.

Court records show Ramirez pleaded no contest to a petty theft charge stemming

from that arrest, for which he served 10 days in jail and two years on probation.

Ramirez has had several brushes with police since 1981, though authorities say he has no history of violent crime.

"I don't want to speculate," said Gates, when asked if Ramirez could be linked to other killings since last summer.

"But you simply don't commit murder, and then (have) a very long period where you lie dormant and then engage in a series (of killings). I don't think that's very likely."

Authorities in San Francisco are also looking at unsolved murders from the past four years, inspector Klotz said.

The Feb. 20 stabbing deaths of two sisters who lived together and the June 2 shooting death of a young man whose girlfriend was assaulted bear strong resemblance to the Night Stalker cases, Klotz said.

In both cases, an intruder entered the victims' homes through an unlocked door or window. The young man was shot in the head with a small-caliber gun.

Cases previously linked to the Night Stalker include the beating and stabbing deaths of several women. In seven other cases, police say the Stalker attacked couples by shooting a sleeping man with a small-caliber gun and then assaulting the man's wife or girlfriend.

Authorities have named Ramirez in an arrest warrant issued for the Aug. 17 shooting death of Peter Pan and assault on Pan's wife in their San Francisco home.

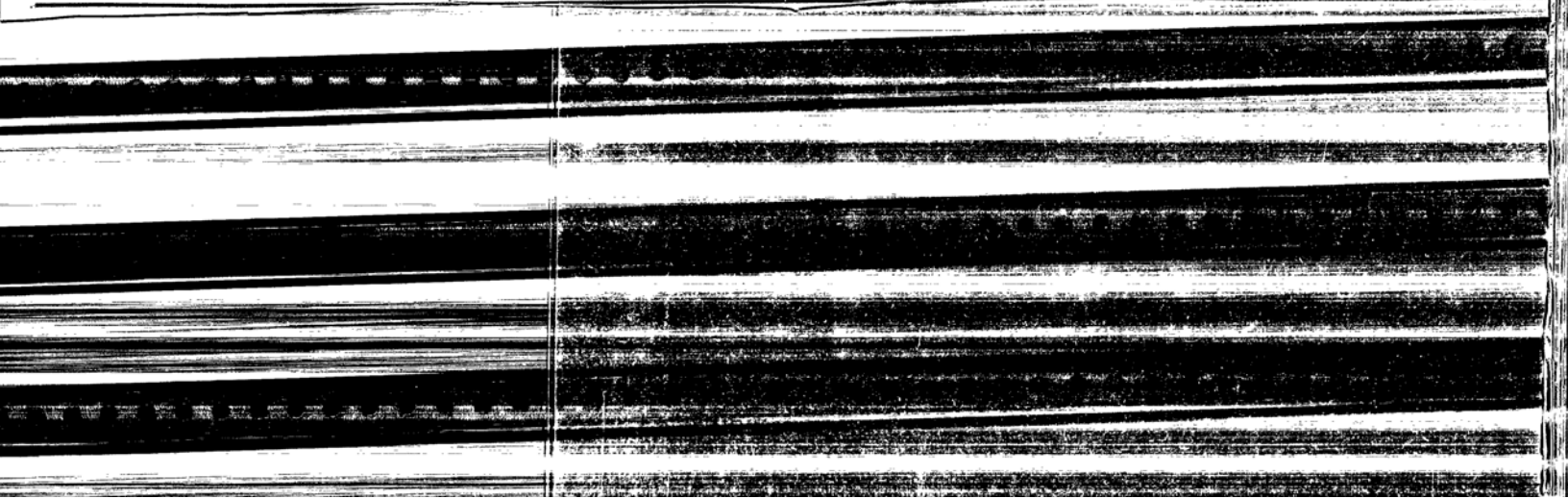
Documents filed in connection with the warrant state that a five-pointed star, often associated with devil-worship, was found in Pan's home. One source said Ramirez had a similar symbol tattooed on his arm, but authorities are downplaying speculation that the Night Stalker killings were motivated by satanism.

Los Angeles Times

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Night Stalker Suspect Tied to '84 Killing

**Fingerprint on Screen
Where Glassell Park
Woman, 79, Was Slain**

By DAVID FREED,
Times Staff Writer

Night Stalker suspect Richard Ramirez has been linked through a fingerprint to the June, 1984, slaying of a 79-year-old woman in Glassell Park, Los Angeles Police Chief Daryl F. Gates said Wednesday. The murder is the earliest yet attributed to the accused killer.

"We have discovered that he is potentially responsible for the murder of Jennie Vincow," Gates told a news conference. "We have identified Richard Ramirez's fingerprint from a screen. He apparently entered through an open window. . . ." Gates' disclosure came as authorities in Los Angeles and San Francisco were examining dozens of unsolved slayings to see if any can be linked to Ramirez, the Night Stalker suspect to whom 15 homicides have now been attributed.

Files From 1981 Checked

Gates said his detectives are checking crime files "as far back as 1981," when local law enforcement officers initially encountered Ramirez.

Ramirez is believed to have first arrived in California in 1981, when he was arrested by Pasadena police on a petty theft charge.

The 25-year-old drifter from El Paso subsequently compiled a sizable arrest record in the Los Angeles area involving mostly vehicle and drug-related violations, authorities have indicated.

"We've been looking at a wide variety of crimes that might fit his trademarks," Gates said. One of the cases under scrutiny was the one revealed Wednesday, the throat-slashing death of Vincow.

Shooting in Rosemead

Police earlier speculated that the first Stalker killing occurred March 17, when 34-year-old Dayle Okazaki was shot to death in her Rosemead condominium.

In San Francisco, detectives Wednesday began combing through files on each of more than 60 unsolved murders dating to early 1983, said Lt. George Kowalski, head of the San Francisco Police Department's Homicide Division.

"We feel Mr. Ramirez may have been in San Francisco (for visits) at least beginning in early 1983," Kowalski said.

Seeking to pinpoint the dates of Ramirez's visits, police were also checking welfare rolls in San Francisco. Kowalski said that Ramirez applied for welfare in California,

Please see **RAMIREZ**, Page 3



IAN DRYDEN / Los Angeles Times

Sheriff's cadets searching along Beswick Street in Boyle Heights for the handgun believed dropped by the murder suspect.

RAMIREZ: Linked to Glassell Park Case

Continued from Page 1

but it is not known if he received payments.

Meanwhile, Gates disclosed that Los Angeles officers had stopped Ramirez at least twice in the months before his arrest Saturday in East Los Angeles.

Gates said the first stop was made by a motorcycle officer in the department's North-east Division on June 15. The officer pulled Ramirez over on suspicion of driving a stolen car. Ramirez fled on foot and avoided capture.

The second incident occurred Aug. 26 when Central Division officers stopped Ramirez on a motorcycle for a minor violation, cited him and let him go.

The August incident came one day after an attack on a Mission Viejo couple that has been linked to the Night Stalker and weeks after a composite drawing of the Stalker suspect had been widely circulated.

"In the first (stop) he ran," Gates said of the June incident. "In the second (stop) there was no recognition on the part of the officers. They simply wrote him up on a traffic violation."

'Difficult to Fault Officers'

"It's difficult to fault the officers," Gates said, adding that the Stalker composite produced by the Police Department was not particularly accurate.

Ramirez was arraigned Tuesday in Los Angeles Municipal Court on a single murder count and seven other charges stemming from two late-night assaults in early May in the San Gabriel Valley. He is being held in a maximum-security section of the Los Angeles County Central Jail.

He also is charged with one murder in San Francisco, that of accountant Peter Pan, 66, who was shot through the head on Aug. 17. Pan's wife, Barbara, remains in critical condition with a gunshot wound in the head.

Besides the Pan killing and the 13 other slayings already attributed to Ramirez, detectives are holding him "potentially responsible"

for the Vincow slaying, Gates said Wednesday.

Her body was found by her son, who lived above her ground-floor apartment at 3330 Chapman St., just south of Glendale's Forest Lawn Memorial Park. Her throat had been slashed, and she had been stabbed repeatedly.

Her attacker had apparently removed a mesh screen and slipped in through an open window, Gates said.

Police investigating the murder scene discovered a single fingerprint on the screen but were unable to immediately determine the identity of the assailant. Gates said investigators were hampered by the Police Department's lack of a computerized, "single fingerprint system" through which partial or single prints can be quickly identified.

Only after Ramirez's arrest and the obtaining of a full set of prints from him were investigators able to manually match his prints with the one found on Vincow's window screen.

In San Francisco, police said they are closely studying at least four homicides that fit the Stalker's general pattern—the slayings were committed late at night by an attacker who entered through an open window or door.

On Feb. 21, police discovered the mutilated bodies of Christina Caldwell, 58, and her sister, Mary, 70. They were stabbed dozens of times.

A coroner's report said a window of their ransacked flat was left open. Bloody fingerprints, palm prints and shoe prints were left behind, although Kowalski said most of the prints turned out to be those of neighbors.

Another slaying being checked is that of Masataka Kobayashi, 45, part owner and chef of Masa's, a fashionable restaurant on Nob Hill, Kowalski said.

The fourth killing involved Edward F. Wildgans, 29, who was shot June 2 through the right temple by a late-night intruder. He died two days later. His girlfriend fought off the attacker.

Wildgans was killed by a small-caliber,

copper-jacketed bullet, the coroner's report said. Several other Night Stalker victims were shot with small-caliber weapons, according to authorities.

Los Angeles police confirmed Wednesday that they have recovered a pistol believed used by Ramirez in at least one slaying. The .22-caliber weapon was discovered in Tijuana, but detectives would not disclose how it was found.

However, officials from the three major police agencies in the Mexican border town said that no one from their agencies had recovered a pistol thought to belong to Ramirez, nor had they turned any weapons over to Los Angeles investigators.

Meanwhile, police continued to search for another gun that they believe Ramirez had and dropped while being pursued Saturday.

Area Combed for Pistol

About 40 Los Angeles County sheriff's cadets using metal detectors combed the area around 8th and Mott streets in Boyle Heights on Wednesday for the small pistol but found no trace of it, said Deputy Lynda Edmonds, a sheriff's spokeswoman.

Several miles away, another 20 cadets conducted a similar search of 200 square yards bordering the York Avenue on-ramp to the northbound Glendale Freeway in the Glassell Park area, apparently searching for evidence relating to the Night Stalker murders or related assaults.

The cadets recovered six "articles" of interest to investigators, who would not indicate the nature of the discoveries.

In another development Wednesday, Orange County prosecutors did an about-face and decided to wait, perhaps for several weeks, before filing their own charges against Ramirez.

The accused Night Stalker is suspected of shooting a 29-year-old man in the head and raping his fiancée on Aug. 25 in Mission Viejo.

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RAMIREZ: Fingerprint Traced

Continued from Page 3

The shooting victim, Bill Carns, remains in serious but stable condition in Mission Community Hospital.

Orange County Chief Deputy Dist. Atty. James Enright had said that his office expected to file charges against Ramirez on Wednesday. But Wednesday morning, the chief deputy changed his position and said Orange County Sheriff's Department investigators will not be ready to present their case to the district attorney's office for two weeks, mainly because they are awaiting results of scientific tests.

Meanwhile, Los Angeles County Public Defender Wilbur F. Littlefield named Deputy Public Defender Allen R. Adashek, 42, a 16-year

veteran of the office, to represent Ramirez in the Los Angeles case.

The deputy public defender said he talked with Ramirez for about an hour Wednesday afternoon at the Los Angeles County Jail but declined to describe the meeting or Ramirez's state of mind.

Ramirez has not yet entered pleas to the eight felony counts filed against him in Los Angeles on Tuesday.

Times staff writers Bob Baker, Leonard Greenwood, Carol McGraw, Victor Merina, Michael Seiler and Robert W. Stewart in Los Angeles, Jerry Hicks in Orange County, H. G. Reza in San Diego and Dan Morain in San Francisco contributed to this story.

Los Angeles Times

Friday, August 30, 1985

Los Angeles Times

the Nation

ending at 5 p.m. daylight time.

Today	Forecast/Fri	Forecast/Sat
Preclp.	Weather Lo/Hi	Weather Lo/Hi
.03	Cloudy 47/62	63/70

Stalker: 2 more slayings tied to killer

Continued from Page A-1

is responsible for 17 homicides. That figure includes Sunday's attack on a Mission Viejo man, 29-year-old William Carns, who was shot in the head but is still clinging to life in the intensive care unit of Mission Community Hospital, Los Angeles Police Cmdr. William Booth said.

Los Angeles Sheriff Sherman Block last week released a list of 14 killings linked to the Night Stalker. Booth and other officials declined to give any information about the two killings now added to the list.

The two cases occurred in Los Angeles County, outside the city of Los Angeles, police sources said. They were added after police decided the Night Stalker has been operating since February, Booth said.

Investigators previously believed the first Night Stalker killing was the March 17 shooting death of a 35-year-old woman, Dayle Okazaki, in her Rosemead condominium.

Ten of the Night Stalker's victims were killed in the San Gabriel Valley. Two more were slain in Glendale. One was killed in the Los Angeles community of Sun Valley and another was shot to death in San Francisco. In addition, police suspect the killer is responsible for shootings, kidnappings, rapes and sexual assaults on children in the San Gabriel and San Fernando valleys.

The orange Toyota station wagon linked to Sunday's attack in Mission Viejo was reported stolen Saturday and then was found this week in Los Angeles.

Contrary to early news reports, the abandoned car was first observed in a Los Angeles parking lot Monday morning, although Los Angeles police weren't notified until Tuesday.

Authorities then decided to "stake out" the car in hopes of catching the killer. On Wednesday,

day morning, police announced that the car had been found.

The owner of a Los Angeles health food store said he first saw the car in his parking lot and recorded its license plate number about 7 a.m. Monday. "I saw it without knowing" that the car was wanted by police, said Jon Quinn, owner of Foods for Fitness, 3477 W. Sixth Street.

"I jot down the license numbers of all the vehicles that are illegally parked in our parking lot," Quinn said. After authorities asked for public assistance in locating the car, a customer recognized the Toyota and notified police.

"The armada showed up," Quinn said, describing how police cars and helicopters surrounded the area on Tuesday. When it was learned the car was empty, "they pulled back immediately and just left a few individuals for a stake out," said Quinn, who was told by police to stay away from the car.

Police finally decided to take the car away on Wednesday. Quinn said he thinks the killer is nowhere around this area. My opinion is he probably walked down on Wilshire Boulevard and got on a bus."

Orange County sheriff's investigators, meanwhile, declined to say whether they found any evidence in the car, other than the fingerprints. The prints don't belong to the car's current owner, who bought the car a few weeks ago, but investigators hadn't yet checked other recent owners, said Larry Ragle, director of forensic science at the Orange County Sheriff-Coroner's office.

"We've started the process of going through criminal records" and comparing fingerprints, Ragle said.

Police also reported a woman was slain in the city of Orange Thursday morning, but investigators with the Los Angeles Sheriff's Department task force concluded the killing was not the work of the Night Stalker.

STALKER: 2 Added to Victim List; It's 16 Now

Continued from Page 1

Avenue in the Rampart District of Los Angeles.

J. Larry Ragel, commander of the Orange County Sheriff's Department's Forensic Science Services Division, said criminalists on Thursday found "good" prints on the car using a laser examining device and other state-of-the-art methods. The prints apparently do not match those of the car's owner.

Ragel said the Orange County sheriff's fingerprint computer, which holds fingerprint sets for 13,000 people, printed out 100 sets that bear similarities to those lifted from the car. Ragel declined to indicate whether any of the computer-filed fingerprints matched the ones discovered Thursday.

He said the lifted prints also would be sent to the state Department of Justice, which has more than 1 million sets of fingerprints on file.

Authorities late Tuesday had

requested the public's help in finding the Toyota station wagon, which had been stolen Saturday night in Chinatown. On Wednesday morning, Los Angeles police reported that the stolen car had been located at about 7 a.m. that day.

What police did not say was that they actually were notified of the car's location Tuesday morning by a telephone tip and that detectives watched the car from hidden positions throughout the day and night without success to see if the person who stole it might return.

Police spokesman Cmdr. William Booth insisted Thursday that authorities were not attempting to deceive the public—even though the request for help in finding the car went out 12 hours after police found it.

"There's no time discrepancy," Booth insisted. "We did seize that car at about 7 a.m. We will not discuss any other activity of the

seizure . . . because (it) may be suggestive of tactics we may use in the future."

Jon Quinn Jr., who runs a health food store in Chapman Park, a small shopping center at 6th and Alexandria, where the car was found, said he first noticed it in the parking lot when he came to work Monday morning.

License Plates Noted

Quinn said he regularly takes down the license plates of all cars in the lot because of illegal parking problems and because stolen cars have been dropped off there before. On Tuesday morning, the Toyota was still parked there, he said, and a neighbor notified police. About 20 officers arrived around 11 a.m. by car and helicopter.

"They decided they didn't want to cordon off the area and called their men off," Quinn said. "Then they left four plainclothesmen to stake it out."

Quinn said he went about his business as usual, selling vitamins and produce, stocking his shelves.

"Actually, I felt safer than ever,

because the neighborhood had all that protection," he said.

He said he had not seen anyone resembling the Stalker in the neighborhood.

In another development, police said there is no evidence indicating that Thursday's early morning slaying of an unidentified woman in the City of Orange was related to the string of Stalker assaults.

Although homicide investigators would not be specific about what evidence may rule out a connection to the serial killer, one said, "the crime scene, overall," in Orange eliminates any connection.

Police Lt. Mike Leintz said that at about 5 a.m., a woman in the northeast area of the Orange County city called police and reported that "she heard a screaming female knocking on her door." After telephoning police, the woman answered the door and found the woman's nude body in a flower bed, Leintz said.

Staff Writers Mark Landsbaum and David Palermo in Orange County contributed to this article.

Two more slayings linked to Stalker

By BRANDON BAILEY
Staff Writer

Two Los Angeles County residents murdered earlier this year were added Thursday to the list of victims slain by the Night Stalker, as authorities released more information and expanded their manhunt for the serial killer.

Law enforcement officials declined to identify the two people killed and provided little information about their deaths.

Orange County investigators, meanwhile, announced the discovery of unidentified fingerprints in an orange Toyota that has been linked to Sunday's attack on a couple in Mission Viejo.

The fingerprint discovery was termed "significant" by a source close to the investigation, but further details were unavailable.

Some information about the killer's habits have been learned, as the Night Stalker investigation continued this week.

■ The killer, believed to be Anglo or light-skinned Hispanic, says very little to his victims and apparently has no discernible accent, police said.

■ After entering a home through an unsecured door or window, the killer "immediately shoots any adult males in the residence and then attacks the female occupants," according to a police bulletin.

■ While investigators believe the killer has used a variety of stolen cars to travel in the state, police said he may favor small, imported station wagons. He is believed to use a .22-caliber revolver and .25-caliber automatic pistol.

Some of the information is included in a circular that will be sent to gas stations and retail outlets around the state, the Los Angeles Police Department announced Thursday. The circular also includes composite sketches and a description of the man believed responsible for 16 killings and numerous other assaults.

The police bulletin says the Night Stalker

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Heavy metal's connection to deadly Night Stalker cited

By PETER DAY
Special Correspondent

A navy blue baseball cap with the silver lightning bolt logo of the heavy metal rock group "AC/DC" emblazoned on its front, which was found at the scene of a murder linked to the Night Stalker, has heated up a continuing controversy of rock music's potential affect on its listeners.

Could AC/DC and heavy metal music, a loud, brash form of rock music especially popular with young

record buyers, have played a role in the killer's gruesome rampage of murder, rape and kidnapping?

"That's absurd," said Ben Brooks, vice president of promotion at DGO Record Promotion in Hollywood. "AC/DC has never been associated with satanic imagery," he stated flatly.

Brooks said AC/DC was popular long before newer heavy metal groups capitalized on satanic images. He cited DIO and Judas Priest as

examples of groups whose commercial success relies on colorfully exploiting images such as leather and chains.

Young people who listen to heavy metal music are "all-American kids who embrace the music because they like music," Brooks said. Their enjoyment of heavy metal "doesn't mean they worship devils."

Conversely, some people, notably child guidance counselors, feel heavy metal music and images could be a

factor in people's behavior.

"We have seen cases where kids' over-involvement with this music has become a focal point for severe family conflict," said Dr. Don Lomas, director of the Back In Control program, a parent education program at the Pasadena Guidance Clinic. "We have been concerned about kids who become overly involved with the symbolism of this type of music."

Lomas did not make a blanket condemnation of all heavy metal

music. "No way are we saying this music is bad or drives people crazy," he said.

Some opponents of AC/DC say the initials stand for "Anti-Christ/Devil's Children." Officials for Atlantic Records, the group's record company, were unavailable for comment.

One stanza in the AC/DC song "Shoot to Thrill" clearly contains violent message. "Shoot to thrill/Pl to kill/Got my gun at the ready/G na fire at will."

Stalker: 2 more slayings tied to killer

Continued from Page A-1

is responsible for 17 homicides. That figure includes Sunday's attack on a Mission Viejo man, 29-year-old William Carns, who was shot in the head but is still clinging to life in the intensive care unit of Mission Community Hospital, Los Angeles Police Cmdr. William Booth said.

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"The armada showed up," Quinn said, describing how police cars and helicopters surrounded the area on Tuesday. When it was learned the car was empty, they pulled back immediately and just left a few individuals for a stake out," said Quinn, who was told by police to stay away from the car. Few individuals. Police finally decided to take the car away on Wednesday. Quinn said he thinks the killer "is nowhere around" this area.

My opinion is he probably walked down on Wilshire Boulevard and got on a bus," this area. Orange County sheriff's investigators meanwhile declined to say whether they found any evidence in the car other than the fingerprints. The prints don't belong to the car's current owner, who bought the car a few weeks ago, but investigators hadn't yet checked other recent owners, said Barry Ragle, director of forensic science at the Orange County Sheriff-Coroner's office. Larry Ragle, director. "We've started the process of going through criminal records" and comparing fingerprints, Ragle said. He started the process of going through criminal records. Police also reported a woman was slain in the city of Orange Thursday morning, but investigators with the Los Angeles Sheriff's Department task force concluded the killing was not the work of the Night Stalker. Los Angeles Sheriff's Department task force concluded the killing was not the work of the Night Stalker.

New clues about Night Stalker

WHAT'S IN A NAME GAME? \$10

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August 28, 1985

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773

Police release updated sketch

By Ruben Castaneda
and Timothy Carlson
Herald staff writers

Like a blurry photograph coming slowly into focus, a shadowy portrait of the Night Stalker is emerging from the jumble of details painstakingly accumulated by detectives on his trail.

According to police agencies, the serial killer dresses in dark clothing, sometimes including a plain dark baseball cap. He may also wear a black, shiny waist-length jacket, black pants and a white shirt.

He may have been a construction worker, and may have once worn a very thin mustache.

Already, the killer's haunted, bug-eyed gaze in a police composite drawing may be the best-known face in Southern California. He is depicted as a thin, sallow-looking man, with gapped, badly decayed teeth and curly brown hair.

But yesterday, the Los Angeles Police Department released an updated composite drawing showing the suspect wearing a plain, dark baseball cap. It also shows somewhat less curly hair, extending below the ears, and possibly parted on either side, rather than in the middle.

Chillingly, he may also have worn a baseball cap decorated with the symbol of a heavy-metal rock group, AC/DC, which has been associated with satanic cults.

The details came from a variety of police sources, including the reissue of a bulletin first issued after the killing of Dayle Okazaki, the woman believed to be the Night Stalker's first victim. Okazaki's roommate, who survived the attack, provided details about the suspect's clothing and appearance, including the thin mustache.

The information about the AC/DC cap came from that bulletin, originally issued March 29. Sheriff's

Stalker/A-11, Col. 3

New details emerging in portrait of Night Stalker

Stalker/Continued from A-1

Deputy Sam Jones said such a cap was found in Okazaki's Rosemead condominium after the March 17 attack.

Jones said the cap had a silver patch on it, embroidered in red, which depicted a lightning bolt and the letters "AC DC." He noted the letters were the name of the popular musical band, but also had a secondary meaning for occult groups who engage in devil worship.

"The letters also stand for 'Anti-Christ — Devil's Child,'" said Jones. But he added, "As far as we know, there is no connection between the patch on this cap and any signature this killer may leave behind at the scene of his crimes," said Jones.

Police have been tight-lipped about whatever it is that the suspect has scrawled on walls in at least three cases.

Both the Orange County and Los Angeles County sheriff's departments have issued a bulletin describing a 1976 orange Toyota station wagon with the license plate number 482 RTS.

The car, which was stolen in Los Angeles' Chinatown last Saturday, was spotted Sunday at the scene of the latest assault, an attack on a young couple in Mission Viejo, said Joe Garza, a Los Angeles County sheriff's deputy.

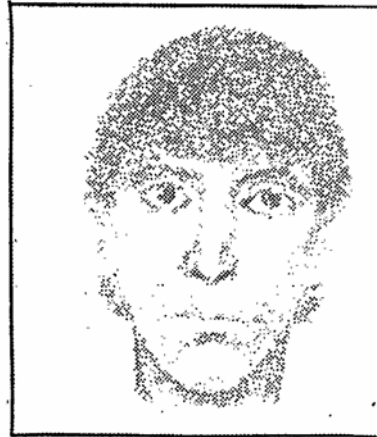
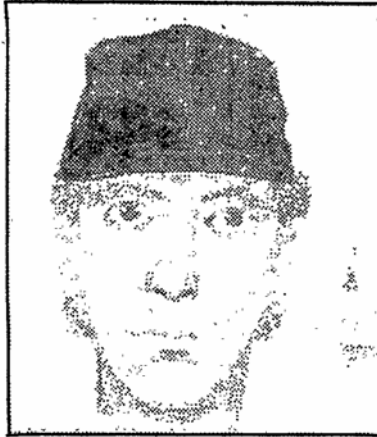
Investigators were still looking for the car yesterday.

The vehicle is one of several believed to have been stolen by the serial killer, said LAPD Cmdr. William Booth.

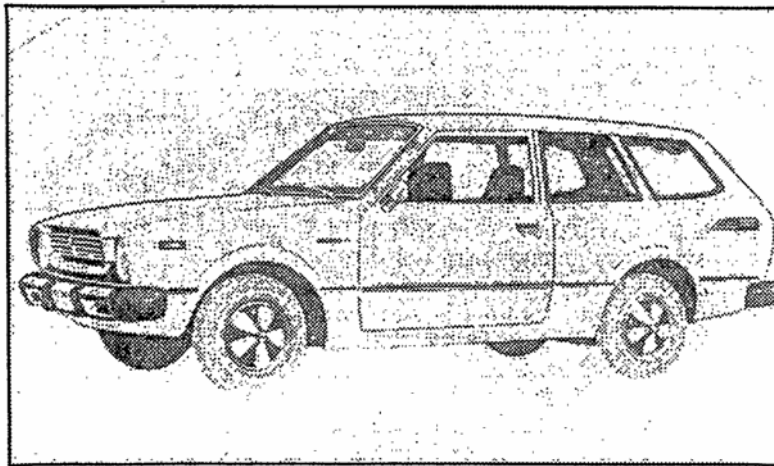
The 1976 Toyota Corolla Deluxe station wagon was stolen from Los Angeles resident Bill Gregory, who said he parked the car on the 400 block of Cottage Home Street, just off the Pasadena Freeway, about 9:30 p.m. Saturday.

He said he locked the vehicle and came back a half-hour later. Upon his return, the car was gone. Gregory said a spare set of keys were in a briefcase he left in the car.

In another development, LAPD detectives were looking for a link between the Night Stalker and several attacks on children, including the March 20 rape of an 8-year-old Glassell Park girl abducted from



Latest composite of Stalker, left, adds baseball cap and additional details to original version. Below is sketch of Toyota Corolla model station wagon killer may be driving.



her bed while her parents slept.

However, Dave Tellez, a Los Angeles sheriff's deputy, said sheriff's investigators are not including any child molestations as part of the Night Stalker investigation.

The Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, which is heading a 50-man interagency task force on the slayer, says it is investigating a total of 34 cases, including 13 directly linked to the suspect. Of those 13, 12 are murder cases in which 14 people were killed and five were assaulted. The other incident directly linked to the Night Stalker was in Mission Viejo, where a man was shot and wounded and his fiancée raped.

The sheriff's department is not releasing details of the other 21 cases, except to say that they include cases of rape and assault.

In Orange County, authorities yesterday said they were stepping up car and helicopter patrols in the wake of the latest assault.

Orange County Sheriff Brad Gates announced at a news conference that deputies are increasing their patrols in unincorporated areas of Orange County and have begun stopping people "in situations in which my officers feel are appropriate."

The latest attack attributed to

the Night Stalker, who has been linked to 14 murders, occurred in Orange County early Sunday morning.

William Carns, 29, was in critical condition at Mission Community Hospital after having been shot three times in the head. His fiancée was raped, but managed to call police.

Gates urged Orange County residents to lock their doors and windows, to leave lights on at night both inside and outside their homes, and to call law enforcement authorities if they see any suspicious activities in their neighborhoods.

The Night Stalker has typically gained entry to the home of his victims through unlocked doors and windows.

Two of the assaults attributed to the serial killer have occurred in the LAPD's jurisdiction, in Northridge and Sun Valley. The LAPD has several detectives working on those cases, while cooperating with a larger, multi-agency task force, said LAPD Lt. Dan Cooke.

Herald staff writers Chris Woodyard, Milt McGriff and Mark S. Warnick contributed to this report.

Police seek '76 Toyota that Stalker may have used

By BRANDON BAILEY
Staff Writer

Authorities are looking for a 1976 orange Toyota station wagon that "bears similarities" to the vehicle seen leaving the site of Sunday's attack that police believe was committed by the so-called Night Stalker.

The California license plate number of the Toyota is 482 RTS. "The driver

of the vehicle is believed to be armed and dangerous," Deputy Steve Lee of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department said late Monday night.

"We're not saying this is the Night Stalker," Lee emphasized. But the car, which has been reported stolen by the Los Angeles Police Department, is similar to the one seen in Mission Viejo Sunday.

The fact that the car was stolen "adds extra credence" to authorities' belief that people should be on the lookout and call their local police department if they spot it, Lee said.

After Sunday's early morning attack on a Mission Viejo couple, fear of the vicious serial killer known as the Night Stalker has spread up and down the state.

As calls from concerned citizens continued to swamp police agencies in the San Gabriel Valley, Los Angeles, San Francisco and Orange County, officials said Monday that they have no indication where the killer might be.

"At 2:40 a.m. Sunday, he was in Orange County," said Lt. Richard Walls of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Information Bureau. "Other than

that, your guess (about the killer's whereabouts) is as good as mine."

William Carns, the 29-year-old man shot Sunday in his suburban Mission Viejo home, remained in critical condition Monday at Mission Community Hospital.

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Stalker: Fear spreads after latest attacks

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An intruder believed to be the Night Stalker shot Carns in the head, then sexually assaulted his girlfriend before leaving her tied up, Orange County authorities said.

Carns' one-story house is located on a main road just a few minutes from the Golden State (5) Freeway, which connects San Francisco, Los Angeles and San Diego.

While investigators have no idea if the killer might be headed south toward Mexico, U.S. Border Patrol agents have been sent composite sketches and other information about the case, Walls said.

"I know that every agency in the state has been notified," he added.

Orange County authorities have begun advising the same precautions that police and

sheriff's deputies in the San Gabriel Valley have repeatedly stressed since the killings began in March.

"People are pretty scared," said Orange County Sheriff's Lt. Robert Benson, who said his office has received a stream of telephone calls from worried citizens.

Despite the recent hot weather, residents should keep all doors and windows locked and all exterior house lights should be turned on at night, Walls said. Shrubs should be trimmed back around windows and any suspicious circumstances should

be reported to police, he said.

"It's more than a good idea" to continue exercising caution, he said. "It's imperative."

In San Francisco, a special police task force is continuing to investigate last week's shooting death of an elderly accountant, whose wife also was shot and bludgeoned in an assault police blame on the Night Stalker.

The volume of telephone calls from worried citizens hadn't dropped Monday, despite the news of Sunday's attack in suburban Orange County, 600 miles south of San Francisco.

"We figured out (that) it's

been 500 calls a day," said Officer Daniel Greeley at the San Francisco Police Department's Operations enter.

Los Angeles sheriff's detectives believe the killer is responsible for 14 slayings, starting with the March 17 shooting death of a 35-year-old woman, Dayle Okazaki, in her Rosemead coninium.

Investigators also suspect the same man may be responsible for 19 other brutal assaults, rapes and kidnappings.

Staff writer Selwyn Eiber also contributed to this story.

BETTER

New Night Stalker Sketch Adds Black Cap

By DAVID FREED and MARK LANDSBAUM, Times Staff Writers

Police officials issued a new composite sketch of the so-called Night Stalker on Tuesday that shows him wearing a black baseball cap, which detectives believe he has frequently worn while committing 14 murders and 21 assaults since February.

Los Angeles Police Department spokesman Cmdr. William Booth declined to say why the cap was included in the updated drawing, except to note that "at times, he's been seen wearing a baseball cap. It's not something he just started wearing."

Sheriff's Lt. Dick Walls said the killer may have left a similar cap behind in the Rosemead condominium where he is believed to have killed his first victim, Dayle Okazaki, 34, on March 17.

Authorities said a navy blue cap found at the murder scene had a silver patch embroidered in red. The patch depicted a lightning bolt and the letters "AC-DC," the name of a popular heavy metal rock band.

Other features of the first drawing—the curly brown hair and gapped, badly stained teeth—were not changed in the composite issued Tuesday, nor was the physical description provided by witnesses and survivors. He is described as being of slim build, about 6 feet tall and 25 to 30 years old.

Police asked that the public clip and save published versions of the composite drawings. Booth suggested that people carry the clippings in cars so they could more readily recognize

individuals resembling the killer.

"If they see somebody who looks like him, we'll come in a hurry," Booth said.

Meanwhile, authorities continued their search for a car seen by a witness in the Mission Viejo neighborhood where the Stalker is suspected of shooting a 29-year-old man and raping his girlfriend early Sunday. The car is believed to have been stolen Saturday night in Los Angeles' Chinatown, while its owner dined in a restaurant.

Authorities described the stolen car as an orange 1976 Toyota with the license plate 482 RTS. The witness reported seeing a car of the same make and color, but was unable to remember

Please see **STALKER**, Page 2



A police sketch of the killer.

Metro Ra Supporters Try to Heal Latest Rift

By RICH CONNELL, Times Staff Writer

Prominent Los Angeles lawyer-lobbyist and Democratic politico Mickey Kantor was on the phone early Tuesday trying to patch up the latest breach in the

STALKER: Cap Added to Sketch

Continued from Page 1

only a partial license plate number of 482 T.

Police have asked the public's help in locating the auto.

So far, the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, which is coordinating a multi-agency hunt for the serial slayer, has received more than 2,000 tips in the case, including dozens of reported sightings of people resembling the suspect.

The most recent sighting came Tuesday afternoon in the San Gabriel Valley community of San Dimas, where sheriff's deputies searched a neighborhood after receiving reports of a man resembling the Stalker in a "mom and pop" grocery store.

The deputies, aided by a helicopter and tracking dogs, scoured the area around Gladstone Street and Amelia Avenue for nearly an hour before calling off the search, said Deputy Richard Shaw.

"Two citizens saw a man who they thought resembled the 'Valley Intruder,' but we didn't find him," Shaw said.

Sheriff Sherman Block suggested early in the investigation that "Valley Intruder" would be an appropriate nickname because of the killer's intrusive behavior in sneaking into darkened homes, and because the crimes occurred in the San Fernando and San Gabriel valleys.

However, the most recent slayings have occurred as far away as Mission Viejo in Orange County and in San Francisco.

More and more, the public, the news media and law enforcement officials—particularly those in the Police Department—have come to call the killer the "Night Stalker."

"You can't call him the Valley Intruder because he's not always hitting in the valley," said Lt. Dan Cooke, a Police Department spokesman.

Stalker linked to earlier abductions



Guardian Angel Steve Duncan talks to Duarteans Carol Shultz, center, her children and her friend, Carol Ogden

Judith Gordon / Star-News

Guardian Angels keep watch in San Gabriel Valley homes

By WAYNE HARPE
Staff Writer

Karen Gregory, 46, lives alone in a three-room house in Monrovia, with only an 8-year-old pet cat for a companion. She lives in fear, she can't sleep and has considered moving back to Michigan, her original home.

Chilling accounts of the so-called Night Stalker finally prompted her to seek help Tuesday night.

She and about 40 other San Gabriel Valley residents, mainly women with young children, agreed to allow members of the Guardian Angels, the self-appointed protective group, to spend the night at their

homes to guard against the killer.

Most said that local police were doing a good job but said they felt added protection was warranted.

"I'm here to get an angel, an earthly angel," Gregory said Tuesday night.

About 60 members of the Guardian Angels and willing residents matched up in a 7:30 p.m. meeting at the Santa Anita YMCA in Monrovia. The Angels' plan called for two-member teams to spend the night with some 48 West San Gabriel Valley residents which had previously requested the Angels'

Please see ANGELS,
Page A-5



NIGHT STALKER SUSPECT

... newly drawn composite released

Car spotted in Orange stolen near 110 Freeway

By BRANDON BAILEY
and JIM TRANQUADA
Staff Writers

A vicious serial killer dubbed the Night Stalker may have stolen a car from a Los Angeles street, just off the Pasadena Freeway, hours before attacking a couple in suburban Orange County over the weekend.

The orange Toyota station wagon, which was spotted outside the couple's Mission Viejo home, was stolen shortly after 9:30 p.m. Saturday in the Chinatown section of Los Angeles.

Less than five hours later, around 2 a.m., a man authorities believe to be the Night Stalker shot 29-year-old William Carns and raped his girlfriend inside his suburban Orange County house, located near the Golden State (5) Freeway.

The owner of the 1976 auto, Watts resident Bill Gregory, said he discovered his car was stolen when he came out of a Chinatown restaurant. Los Angeles Sheriff's Lt. Richard Walls confirmed Gregory's account.

Authorities in Los Angeles and Orange counties on Tuesday repeated their call for public assistance in locating the car, which has a California license plate number 482RTS.

But officials cautioned that the man who apparently stole the car is considered armed and "very dangerous." Anyone who sees the car should notify police or sheriff's deputies, officials said.

"We still would like to have (the car). But we would not like to have a person approach the car or anyone in it," said Cmdr. William Booth of the Los An-

Please see STALKER,
Page A-7

Angels: The watch begins

Continued from Page A-1

presence.

"(The killer) is probably cruising around like a vulture, looking for an open window or door," said Angel founder Curtis Sliwa. "We'll be there waiting for him if he should happen to come in.

"Anybody who comes through a window is going to get yoked down," he added.

In addition, about eight pre-designated residences would become "baited traps" where the residents agreed to leave for the night while Angels replaced them in the "hope that the guy shows up," Sliwa said.

"You'll be covered from the time the sun goes down until the sun comes up," Angel founder Curtis Sliwa told the gathering.

Monrovia police Lt. Dennis Jacks said the police department does not endorse the house-sitting by the Guardian Angels or the traps they are setting.

The home security patrols officially were to start a midnight and end a 6 a.m. today. But Angels said they would provide the overnight security as long as the residents demanded it or until the killer is captured.

But residents at the meeting appeared to support the effort with great enthusiasm.

Monrovia resident Gregory arrives home on West Olive Avenue late on work nights. Her transportation is a motor-scooter.

With her home guarded by Angels inside, she felt more secure, she said.

Seated beside her was Angel member Felicia Loudermilk, 22, who joined the organization two months ago. She and another member, Ray Silver Jr., 17, were working as a team in the Gregory home.

Stalker: Suspect linked to earlier child abductions

Continued from Page A-1

geles Police Department.

The search for the killer intensified Tuesday, as Los Angeles police confirmed that a composite drawing of the Night Stalker suspect matches the description of a suspect in the kidnapping and molestation of four children earlier this year.

Investigators previously had said the kidnappings were among 19 cases that might be the work of the Night Stalker. Those cases are in addition to 13 killings in the San Gabriel and San Fernando

valleys and one slaying in San Francisco that have been definitely linked to the killer.

Police now are definitely linking the killer to the March 20 kidnapping of an 8-year-old Highland Park girl who was abducted from her home at night, molested and later dropped off in another part of Los Angeles, Booth said Tuesday.

A new composite drawing of the suspect, similar to an earlier composite but showing the suspect wearing a dark baseball-style cap, was released Tuesday by the Los Angeles Police Depart-

ment.

"In our view, there is enough of a connection that we are using this same composite" for the March 20 kidnapping, Booth said.

Other kidnappings that detectives felt might be related include the Feb. 25 abduction of a 6-year-old Montebello girl and the March 11 kidnapping of a 9-year-old Monterey Park boy.

The Montebello girl told police she was carried away from a school yard in a zippered garment bag and sexually assaulted before being dropped off in Los Angeles. The Monterey Park boy

was taken from his home at night, sexually assaulted and dropped off in Los Angeles, investigators said.

Most of the Night Stalker attacks have been aimed at adults — starting in March with the brutal killings of six women, followed more recently by several attacks on couples in which a man was shot and a woman killed or assaulted.

Police said the killer attempted to sexually molest the 8-year-old son of a Sun Valley man who was shot to death July 20.

Authorities said the killer may have

worn different baseball caps in several of the Night Stalker attacks. In cases where he didn't have a hat, he may have had his hair parted on either side of the head, Booth said.

After the first killing in the series, a blue baseball-style cap with a silver lightning bolt logo was found at the Rosemead condominium where 35-year-old Dayle Okazaki was shot to death March 17.

Orange County Sheriff Brad Gates declined Tuesday to confirm a report that the man who attacked Carns and his girlfriend was wearing a dark cap.

Arcadia burglaries plummet

By BRAD HAUGAARD
Staff Writer

Burglaries in Arcadia have plummeted after publicity about the serial killer who has preyed upon sleeping victims throughout the Southland, Arcadia's Acting Police Chief Neal Johnson said Wednesday.

Speaking to about 150 people at a citizens' briefing at Foothills Junior High School, the third such meeting in the city, Johnson said there were 23 burglaries in Arcadia during June, 36 in July, but so far this month, only nine.

"You people are locking down, making it better," Johnson said.

"You guys kept them out,"

said Officer Don Alcorn, adding that he wished he could take credit for the crime rate drop. "You're finally listening."

Alcorn said he hopes the heightened awareness about security remains with residents even after the killer is caught.

In reply to questions about the killings, Johnson said there is some evidence the serial killings are similar to the June 27 kidnapping of a 6-year-old Arcadia girl who was raped and released in Los Angeles. Police are not ruling out that the crimes may be related and are checking further, he said.

Johnson also said police cannot confirm the belief that the killer selects his victims by the

yellow color of their homes.

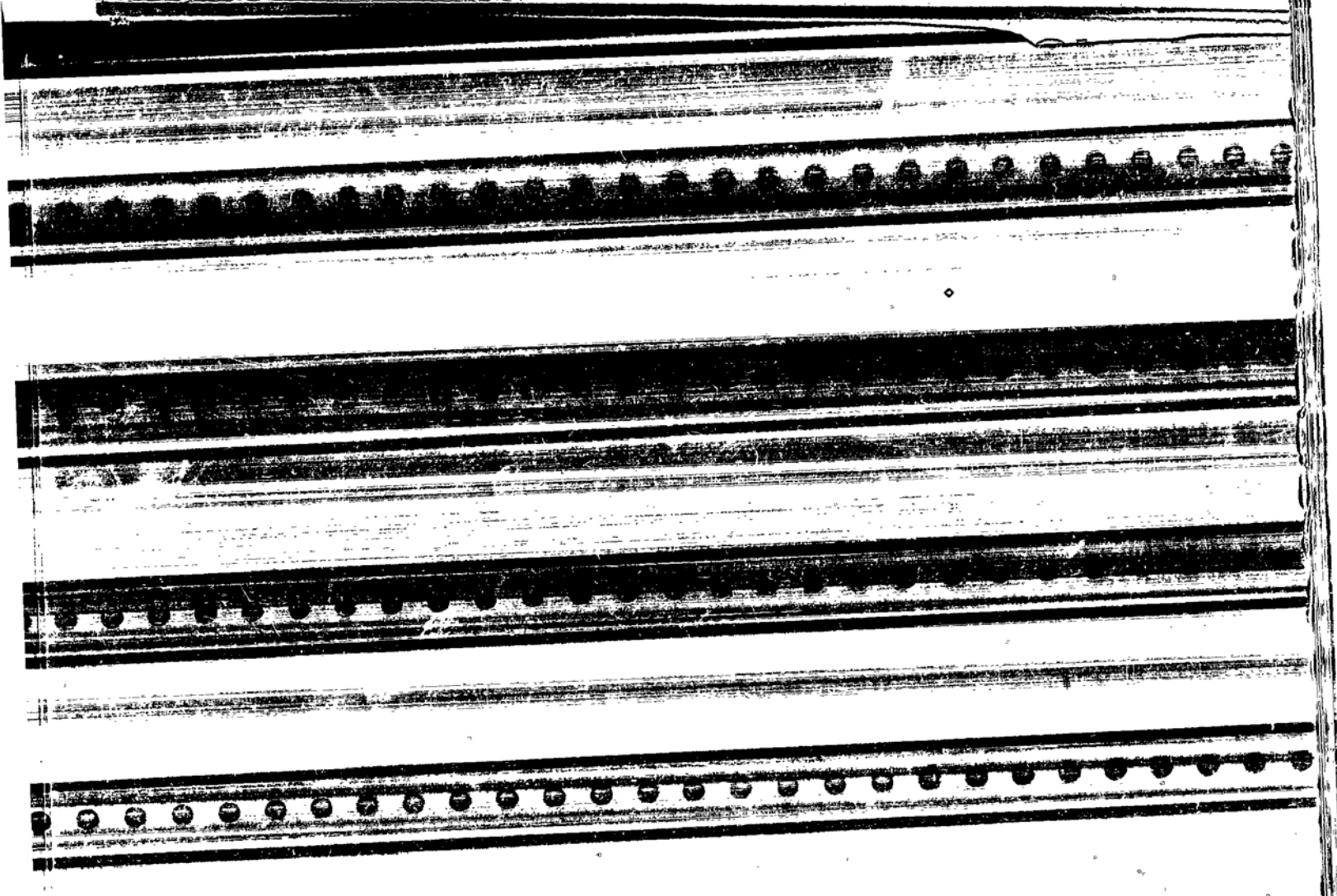
In response to offers from the Guardian Angels to stay near or in people's homes, Johnson said the decision about whether to accept the offer is up to residents. As an alternative, he suggests neighbors sleep at one another's homes if it makes them feel more secure.

Lt. Richard Honaker also told the audience that by revealing that the same gun has been used in many of the crimes, San Francisco Mayor Diane Feinstein "took us back about six months."

Residents report 800 to 1,000 "sightings" of possible suspects each day, Honaker said.

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Sierra Madre, California — Thursday, Aug. 29, 1985



Brian Decker explains why he joined 'The Angels'

Why has Brian Decker, son of Hank and Suzanne Decker of Sierra Madre, chosen to join the Guardian Angels? "Because the girl across the street was assaulted and I decided I should do something extra to help out," Brian answers quickly. Deckers live across the street from the 16-year-old Sierra Madre girl who was bludgeoned in her home in the early morning hours a month ago.

Brian, a junior at La Salle High School this fall, has been attending organizational meetings for the "Angels" ever since the first meeting was held in Sierra Madre over a month ago.

"That night I talked with them (representatives of the 'Angels') and I decided to join. The meeting was interesting and they sounded like they had something good going for them. At the very first training meeting we worked out, then they taught us some self-defense and handcuffing and we patrolled lower Arcadia," Decker says.

How did it feel to be a part of the group?

"It felt good. It felt like you were helping out. I've been in training for a month now and I've learned alot. I've learned a lot about self-defense such as when to use tactics like putting someone in a hold if he swings at you. First, we tell them to freeze and identify themselves. If they run, we chase them. If they comply, we put cuffs on them. If they fight, we use self defense," the local youth explains.

Then he adds, "Of course, that's only in cases when someone has done something wrong. We have to see them in the act. We have to have evidence."

On Thursdays, members of the about-to-be-organized San Gabriel Valley chapter are trained by a law enforcement officer who has been a policeman for nine years. "He teaches us street situations.



Brian Decker

What could happen — how to defend ourselves. He says only those who are prepared are able to do this. We work in partners to make sure we protect each other."

Brian explains that members of the chapter are "all sizes. There are also four women in our group."

Each night when they are on patrol, they cover about six miles. They are urged to wear comfortable clothes and are asked to wear white T-shirts until they have earned their Guardian Angel shirts. That takes about six weeks.

"We have to patrol for 10 times and we're tested at those patrols. We have to participate in the training that continues each week for an hour before the patrols. We must be able to take verbal abuse and not yell back or get angry. There's a lot of people who like us but there are some who don't. I had to give three references and I used Happy's because I work there besides two people I do yard work for. I already had a CPR card but I took a refresher course. They also asked us if we had a felony and if we

Please turn to Page 10

Task force continues queries of murders

Los Angeles County Sheriff's Deputy John Broussard told The News Tuesday morning that up to 13 more cases are "definitely connected with the killer (called the "Night Stalker" and the "Valley Intruder").

Besides those seven reported last week, he said the following have been added to the list:

- William Doi, male, Monterey Park, May 14, murdered;
- Joyce Nelson, female, Monterey Park, July 7, murdered;
- Petere Pan, male, San Francisco, Aug. 17 or 18, murdered, (his wife was assaulted);
- Vincent and Maxine Zazzara, male and female, Mission Viejo, Aug. 25, male murdered, woman assaulted.

Broussard said information concerning contact with dentists around this part of the state was released prematurely. "It is an investigative tool, part of the investigation we are not discussing."

That information came on the heels of an announcement that the assailant's teeth were rotted, discolored and gapped, possibly needing the care of a dentist.

Originally there were 34 cases task force members were investigating and now they know that 13 are related. "Anything beyond that we are not discussing. If any more cases appear to be related, we will release that information."

The News asked about certain similarities in the killings and attacks that had been reported by the media and Broussard replied, "We know he is attacking between 10 p.m. and 6 a.m. and that he gains entry through open doors and windows. Any other information we are not releasing."

How does the sheriff's department perceive the Guardian Angels?

Broussard said, "We treat them with the same respect as with other organized groups if they stay within the law."

Broussard stated that the incident in which a 16-year-old Sierra Madre female was bludgeoned in her home a month and a half ago was still one of the cases being investigated.

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Brian Decker

Continued from page 1

had, we wouldn't be allowed to enter the Guardian Angels."

Brian continues, "When we go out on patrol, we walk two abreast. People ask us what we're doing, why we're there and lots of people ask us if we're local kids." He says there are other Sierra Madreans in the group.

The News asked him what he thought of Danny Lewis, coordinator for the West side. "He's a great guy. He really knows his stuff. He has taught us most of what we know."

Brian explains that preparation for the San Gabriel chapter of the Guardian Angels has been mostly like patrol. "We also made \$250 from our car wash a couple weeks ago. Danny put the whole amount in a savings account and when we finally get the chapter organized, we'll use that money to buy what we need for the chapter. Danny will be leaving once we get organized, but we'll keep in touch."

Brian, who is 6'1" and tips the scales at 160 pounds, was born in New Jersey but the family moved to Sierra Madre eight years ago. He plays baseball, rides his motorcycle and drives his truck. He works for all his spending money, to pay off his truck, to pay for the insurance and gas needed for the vehicles.

He plans to go to PCC for two years then probably major in business at San Diego State.

The Deckers have two other sons: David, 14, and Glenn, 11.

What do his brothers think about his joining the "Angels"? They support it. So do his parents, he says. "They think it's good."

What about the others in the Guardian Angels? All good people, he says. And he adds of some of them, "Some are just kids, same as me. They're out to do the same things as me."

'Angel' founder visits area meeting

There was a touch of the voice of comedian Norm Crosby in the New York accent of Guardian Angel Founder Curtis Sliwa at Monday evening's meeting in Monrovia.

Sliwa flew out from New York to talk with those area residents concerning a Guardian Angel program, the new housesitting (or stayover) program instituted by the group. Sliwa will be in this area for a week.

The housesitting program involves a Guardian Angel staying overnight in a resident's home at his request whether or not the person is at home. Any one interested in having one of the "Angels" sit in his or her home should call (818) 446-6678 or (213) 399-2473.

According to Sliwa, the Guardian Angel notifies police before going to the home and there is also a backup "Angel" nearby in case help is needed.

Sliwa outlined another incident in which the Guardian Angels used this type of program. Not only did they catch the rapist they were looking

for but they also caught four other persons who were committing more minor crimes.

Sliwa described how the most recent assailant (sometimes called the Night Stalker and also called the Valley Intruder) works: he attacks people while they are sleeping and groggy, at a time when they are least able to take care of themselves.

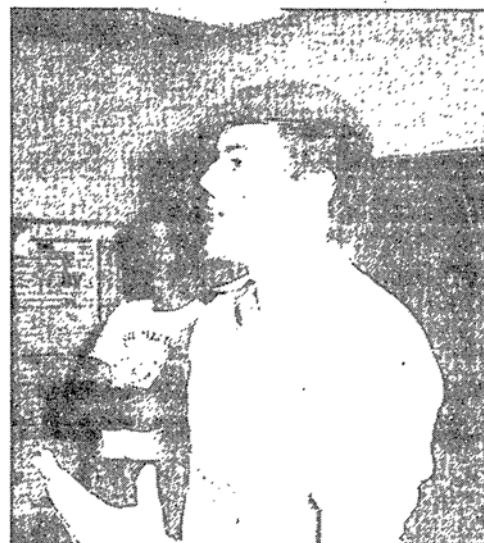
"This creep still walks the streets. You can say, 'Eh, at least someone's out there looking after us.' With your help, we can do this," Sliwa told the group of about 70 persons in a room encircled by Guardian Angels.

Sliwa called the assailant a "mutant creature." He also said, "You're probably wondering what this huckleberry (referring to himself and other Guardian Angels) is doing here? What can he do to give us relief? . . . This guy roams like a vampire getting citizens while they're in a woozy state. We place Guardian Angels in these apartments and houses and eventually the vulture will be caught."

He also told the audience that they could screen their "angel" and establish ground rules. "We're your guests who want to be your protector. We're free but we could sure stand some coffee to keep us awake," he grinned.

Sliwa cautioned the media that this "sleezebag" watches the news and "he's feeding on it."

He also told the audience that they could watch the news and "he's feeding on it." He reiterated the Guardian Angel motto: "When others do nothing, we dare to care."



Guardian Angel founder Curtis Sliwa

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LOS ANGELES HERALD

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WEEKEND

16 murder counts for Stalker

Police link 2 more cases to mass killer

★ Man resembling Stalker was spotted in bar near where stolen car was found.

★ Criminologists using laser beams find fingerprints in the car — but whose?

★ Officials insist Sheriff Block's being on vacation won't hamper the manhunt.

— All on page A-3

**By Mark S. Warnick
and Ruben Castaneda**
Herald staff writers

Amid confusion and lack of communication among investigating agencies, authorities yesterday linked two more murders to the Night Stalker.

The additional deaths would raise the total attributed to the elusive serial killer to 16. They were disclosed as Los Angeles police officials announced new information about the Night Stalker's weapons, prepared statewide distribution of detailed bulletins on the suspect and failed to keep spokesmen for some investigating agencies abreast of all new findings.

Apparently not immediately informed were spokesmen for the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, which heads the multiagency task force assigned to the case.

The manner in which information was released to the public took a substantial turn yesterday with the LAPD's direct involvement. But it was unclear why the LAPD was assuming a more public role. Also unclear was why agencies normally notified were not, and what, if anything, that change reflected in the multiagency investigation.

Among developments in the Night Stalker manhunt yesterday:

■ Los Angeles police released for the first time information on two guns possibly used by the killer, a disclosure criticized by some agencies working on the investigation.

■ Investigators reported that the string of murders being linked to the suspect may have begun last February, not March 17 as previously believed.

■ Fingerprints not matching those of the vehicle's owner were found inside a stolen car believed used in the latest attack.

■ Investigators, who earlier said the Night Stalker may have worked in the construction industry, canvassed building sites near some of the attacks, showing workers composite drawings of the suspect.

■ Release of the bulletin on the suspect prompted initial confusion for its author — the Los Angeles Police Department — as well as among sheriff's department spokes-

PASADENA, CALIFORNIA, THURSDAY, AUGUST 29, 1985

Car suspected stolen by Stalker found

By BRANDON BAILEY
Staff Writer

A stolen orange Toyota connected with last weekend's attack by the so-called Night Stalker was found abandoned Wednesday on a Los Angeles street.

As the killer, who police say has claimed at least 14 victims, remained at large, the Los Angeles City Council voted to add \$25,000 to a reward fund that now totals \$60,055.

The car was towed to Santa Ana, where experts with the Orange County Sheriff's Department began checking the car for fingerprints and other evidence that might aid investigators in their search for the vicious serial killer, who has been linked to 14 deaths and 20 other assaults, rapes and kidnappings.

Witnesses spotted the car near the Mission Viejo home where a man was shot and his girlfriend sexually assault-

ed early Sunday. No further leads were announced by police Wednesday.

As for the killer's whereabouts, Orange County Sheriff's Lt. Richard Olson said: "Just because the car was found in Los Angeles, really unfortunately doesn't mean a whole lot."

Police say they believe the killer has used a variety of stolen cars while traveling in the state.

"He is extremely mobile. We don't know where he is," said Deputy John

Broussard of the Los Angeles Sheriff's Department, adding that authorities want citizens everywhere to continue locking windows at night and taking other precautions.

The 1978 Toyota station wagon, which was stolen from the Chinatown section of Los Angeles Saturday night, was found parked in midtown Los Angeles about 7 a.m. Wednesday. Police, who had asked for public assistance in locating the car, said a citizen

saw the vehicle and notified officers.

Police were checking the area where the car was found, but they had no information about when the car might have been left there. Spokesmen for the Los Angeles Police Department declined to give an exact address, saying only that the car was parked in an area patrolled by the LAPD's Rampart

Please see STALKER,
Back page, this section



Associated Press

Orange County Sheriff's investigators inspect car believed stolen by Stalker

Stalker: Stolen car found in L.A.

Continued from Page A-1

Station.

The car was towed to the Orange County Sheriff's headquarters because investigators there have jurisdiction over the attack on the Mission Viejo couple. In that incident, an intruder believed to be the Night Stalker broke into a house, shot William Carns, 29, in the head and raped Carns' 29-year-old fiancée.

Carns was still on the "critical" list Wednesday at Mission Community Hospital, though officials said his condition has improved.

Authorities wouldn't say what evidence they hoped to find in the Toyota.

"We're not discussing what if anything (the investigators) are finding," Olson said.

Arcadia police meanwhile confirmed Wednesday that authorities are looking into similarities between the series of Night Stalker cases and the June 27 sexual assault of a 6-year-old girl who was kidnapped from her bedroom at night.

The girl was abducted from her Arcadia home and molested by a man who later dropped her off in Los Angeles, said Capt. Neal Johnson, acting chief of the Arcadia Police Department. The man reportedly drove a medium-sized brown car.

Police have some evidence that may link the kidnapping to the Night Stalker, Johnson said, but he declined to elaborate.

Los Angeles police say they definitely believe the Night Stalker was responsible for the March 20 kidnapping of an 8-year-old Highland Park girl, who was taken from her bedroom at night and molested before being dropped off in another part of the city.

Authorities said they suspect two similar cases of kidnapping and child molesting, reported this spring in Monterey Park and Montebello, may have been committed by the Night Stalker.

The \$25,000 reward authorized Wednesday by the Los Angeles City Council follows a \$10,000 reward offered by authorities in San Francisco, where police believe the Night Stalker is responsible for the Aug. 17 shooting death of a 66-year-old accountant. The accountant's wife was also shot and bludgeoned.

The Arcadia City Council has offered a \$5,000 reward and the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors has offered \$10,000. Private donations to a reward fund set up by Los Angeles County officials have reached \$10,055 — including a \$25 contribution that came from an unidentified citizen Wednesday.

The killer has worn a dark baseball cap in some of the attacks. Sheriff's detectives found a blue cap at the Rosemead condominium where a 35-year-old woman was shot to death March 17. The cap had a lightning bolt insignia and the logo of a heavy-metal rock music group called "AC-DC."

'Stalker' reward boosted

LOS ANGELES — The city Wednesday approved a \$25,000 reward for information leading to apprehension of the "Night Stalker," swelling the fund to more than \$60,000. In Santa Ana, a team of forensic experts — using the latest fingerprinting techniques — began a search for clues in a stolen car believed used by the killer, who's blamed for 35 California attacks, including 14 slayings. **USA TODAY** 8-2-93

'Similarities' Studied in Series of Killings

LA TIMES
Aug 1981

By ALEX NEILL and SUE AVERY, Times Staff Writers

The Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department and Glendale police are investigating a possible connection between the July 20 murders of an elderly Glendale couple and a string of five killings and four attacks in the West San Gabriel Valley.

Although Glendale police emphasize that they have no direct link between the San Gabriel Valley homicides and the murders of Glendale residents Maxson C. Kneiding, 68, and his wife, Lela Ellen, 66, they say there are "similarities."

Captain Glynn Martin, commander of the Glendale Police Department's investigative services division, said the similarities are "in the age group, the type of violence used and the time of night of the crime."

Martin refused to give any other details about the similarities, saying, "At this point, it is vital we maintain the integrity of the investigation and not compromise the nature of any evidence we may have."

But, he said, the similarities are significant enough to prompt the Glendale Police Department to "swap notes" with the Sheriff's Department, which is handling the investigation of the San Gabriel Valley murders.

The Kneidings were found shot to death in their bed about 9 a.m. July 20. Martin said they were

probably killed sometime between 2 and 4 that morning.

The string of crimes began May 14 in Monterey Park when William Doi, 65, was shot to death and his wife raped. On June 1, Mabel Bell, 83, and her sister, Florence Lang, 81, who shared a Monrovia home, were found bludgeoned. Bell died July 15; Lang is still hospitalized in critical condition. On June 28, Patty Elaine Higgins, 32, was found dead in her Arcadia home with her throat slashed, and on July 2, Mary Cannon, 75, another Arcadia resident, was found dead in her home with her throat slashed.

On July 5, a 16-year-old Sierra Madre girl was attacked. On July 7, Joyce Nelson, 61, was bludgeoned to death in her Monterey Park home and a few hours later, police say, a 65-year-old Monterey Park woman was raped. All attacks took place in the victims' homes, apparently in the early morning.

Martin said he believes that more than one person entered the Kneidings' home the night they were murdered. That would be inconsistent with the San Gabriel Valley murders, which authorities believe were committed by one person.

Monterey Park police have distributed a composite drawing and description of the suspect in the Joyce Nelson murder. He is white, aged 25 to 30, about 6 feet tall, weighs 160 pounds and has brown curly hair.

SEARCH FOR THE NIGHT STALKER



Forensic specialist Becki Morgan of the Orange County Sheriff's Department uses laser scanner.

Laser turns up fingerprints other than owner's in Toyota

By Jeff Gottlieb
Herald staff writer

Using a laser beam like a flashlight, Orange County criminologists have found fingerprints other than the owner's in the Toyota suspected of being stolen by the Night Stalker serial killer.

Investigators say the prints could belong to any number of the owner's friends. Or they could belong to the man authorities believe stole the car before his attack on a Mission Viejo couple early Sunday. The car was found abandoned in Los Angeles on Tuesday.

Before investigators could use the sophisticated laser equipment, workmen had to build a temporary shelter next to the sheriff's office to house the Toyota.

"Even at night there is too much incidental light outside for the laser test to work," said Larry Ragle, director of forensic services for the sheriff's department. "It has to be very dark."

The 6-foot-long, 8-inch-wide laser cannot be moved because of the amount of power it uses and its cooling system, Ragle said.

"Usually we have things like guns or knives and we just take them into the building," he said. "This time we had to improvise."

A hole was drilled in the wall next to the shelter so that the laser's 20-foot-long,

fiber optics cable, which emits the laser beam, could be threaded through into the shelter, Ragle said.

The sheriff's department bought the \$35,000 laser about a year ago, making it the only police agency in the state to have one, Ragle said. The Phoenix Police Department and the Arizona Public Safety Department have similar lasers.

"You can find a print on anything with the laser," Ragle said.

First, the areas of the car being checked were dusted with fingerprint powder, the traditional means of finding prints.

Then the laser is flashed over the area being inspected.

"If a print shows up there, we might put Superglue on it to make it bolder," Ragle said. "It becomes very dramatic."

Superglue, available in most drug stores, contains a chemical that turns fingerprints white.

Once photographs of the fingerprints are taken, they are specially coded and entered into the sheriff department's Automated Latent Print System, the computer system the department rents for \$4,000 a month. The system contains fingerprints from 15,000 people who have been booked into the Orange County Jail, Ragle said.

If no match is found, investigators will check the computers of other state law enforcement agencies.

Block vacation won't affect Stalker hunt, officials insist

By Deborah Anderluh
Herald staff writer

Los Angeles County and sheriff's officials yesterday defended Sheriff Sherman Block's decision to take a vacation during the Night Stalker manhunt.

County Supervisor Pete Schabarum dismissed as a "cheap shot" a Herald story in yesterday's editions which reported the vacation.

"He said it was a cheap shot and dismissed it as hogwash, a tempest in a teapot," said Schabarum's press secretary, Mickie Silverstein.

Supervisor Kenneth Hahn, while not criticizing the story, took exception to what he said it implied.

"People might think he's not there, when for all intents and purposes he is. He is literally on duty 24 hours a day, seven days a week, whether he's in his office, on an airplane, in Nome, Alaska, or at home."

Los Angeles County Supervisor Kenneth Hahn

vacation at his ranch."

Herald Managing Editor John Lindsay said the story was balanced and accurate.

"The story was a straightforward news account whose facts have not been contradicted. All sides of the story were represented fairly. Sheriff Block's side was presented in detail," he said.

Dawson Oppenheimer said.

The Herald story reported that Block was at home on a vacation that started Tuesday and will continue until sometime after Labor Day.

The sheriff said in the story that he had planned the vacation several months ago to visit with out-of-town relatives he had not

day.

Assistant Sheriff Robert Edmonds, the third-ranking department official, said the article was balanced but the headline — "Sheriff takes his vacation in midst of manhunt" — implied that the sheriff did not care about the investigation.

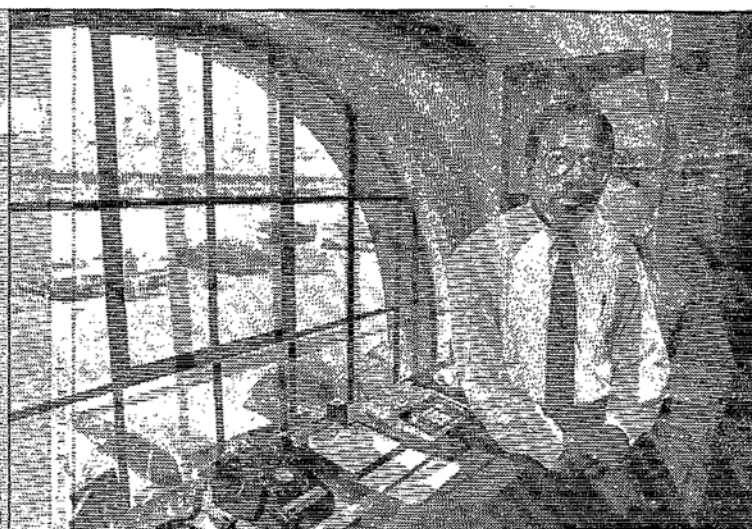
"I think that's a grave injustice to a sheriff who works long, hard hours," he said.

Edmonds also emphasized that the sheriff always conducted most of his business over the phone.

"What's the difference whether I talk to him on his office, home or mobile phone?" he asked.

Undersheriff Theodore von Minden said the sheriff was in daily contact with the department and that in any case, the

People might think he's not there, but Schabarum and Hahn said they had the seen in years ago. He also said he was as close as the phone and that the investigation would continue without interruption or impact. Assistant Sheriff Edwards said, "Our policemen and specialists are out there doing their jobs. We're here to make police and release information that can certainly be done over the phone."



Health food store owner John Quinn, left, stands near spot where car was parked. The Rev. Rodney Shelton Brooks, manager of Beverly Book and Bible, had officers in his store staking out vehicle.

How police found stolen car linked to mass killer

By Chris Woodyard
Herald staff writer

Employees at the Dragon Lady bar called police when they noted a man's resemblance to the composite drawing of the Night Stalker. The man boarded a bus 25 minutes later, after about five minutes before officers arrived.

A beer-drinking man matching the description of the Night Stalker was reported to police Monday by employees of a Wilshire-area bar two blocks west of where the car believed used by the killer was found the next day.

Employees at the Dragon Lady bar at Sixth Street and Normandie Avenue to watch the car Tuesday afternoon in newspaper under his arm was waiting outside when the bar opened at 3 p.m. called police when they noted the man's resemblance to the composite drawing of the Night Stalker. But they said the man away at 7 a.m. Wednesday and police the man boarded a bus 25 minutes later, about five minutes before officers arrived.

A day later, a swarm of police cars converged on the parking lot of the sighting at the bar of a man resembling the Night Stalker. Police spokesman Cmdr. William Booth said he was unaware of the possibility of a television. Her bouncer agreed to the car. "He said it looked like him and heard," she said. In the meantime, our store for an observation post, said, "The police came in and wanted to use the car." She said employees talked with the man, the Rev. Rodney Shelton Brooks, whose station wagon believed used by the Night Stalker in an attack Sunday in Mission Viejo.

But the officers and the circling police helicopter overhead soon downed two Coors, which he paid for. He said detectives wouldn't tell him why they were so interested in the car. She said he was an unemployed Vietnam veteran named Eddie. He noticed that the description of the killer's vehicle in the newspaper matched the car. He said a bullet wound. But the conversation was a few dozen yards away. He admitted why they wanted to watch the car.

Two detectives posted themselves in an upstairs office of a Christian bookstore in a pants and cowboy boots, with a while the man was drinking beer, the slot

Two more murders are linked to Night Stalker as toll hits 16

Stalker/Continued from A-1

men. The bulletin, which contained some new information, also angered some investigators with other agencies, who learned of those disclosures from reporters.

Authorities refused to disclose details on the two newly reported killings, saying only that they occurred earlier this year in the county, outside LAPD jurisdiction.

Although the sheriff's department heads the Night Stalker task force and has been in charge of releasing information on the investigation, officials with the department and the LAPD refused to explain why new details about the case were being handled by city police.

Sheriff Sherman Block previously has provided details about each slaying linked to the suspect, but neither his department nor the LAPD would explain yesterday why officials would not reveal the dates, locations and victims of the two murders mentioned in the bulletin.

Sheriff's department spokesmen referred all questions concerning the two killings to the LAPD, which refused to elaborate on the bulletin.

"We accepted the task of disseminating the bulletin," said LAPD spokesman Cmdr. William Booth. "That's as much as I'm going to say."

The LAPD bulletin also contained two composite drawings of the Night Stalker and details on the

suspect's method of operation, whereby he enters darkened homes through unlocked doors or windows. Thousands of copies were set to be distributed to retail outlets and gas stations throughout the state today, Booth said.

The bulletin also contained information about murder weapons possibly used by the Night Stalker, who is believed responsible for as many as 34 attacks in Los Angeles County and one each in San Francisco and Orange County. A .25-caliber automatic or a .22-caliber revolver may have been used in some of the slayings, according to the bulletin.

Arcadia police Detective Ed Winter, a member of the multiagency Night Stalker task force, said yesterday he had not been told of the bulletin. He also said he was surprised the new information came from Los Angeles police, not the sheriff's department which is heading the investigation.

"As far as information being put out, it does kind of murk the water up," Winter said of the LAPD's distributing the bulletin. "We've got an agreement with the sheriff's that before anything goes out, we'll get together and compare notes."

Release of the police bulletin marked the second time disclosures about the case raised criticism from investigators. Last week, Los Angeles County Sheriff Block, among others, indirectly criticized San Francisco Mayor Dianne Feinstein

for announcing that ballistics tests linked a murder in her city with Night Stalker attacks here.

Lt. Jim Swinford of the Glendale Police Department said releasing descriptions of the weapons was inconsistent with Block's scolding of Feinstein.

"The more you publicize any kind of evidence with a deranged person like this, the more you run the risk of clicking a light in his head," Swinford said. "He may not be thinking about the fact he's using the same weapon."

"But if it comes up two or three or four times, a light bulb might click in his head, and the next thing you know the gun's somewhere off the end of the Santa Monica Pier."

The bulletin was released as Orange County forensics specialists continued searching for evidence inside the stolen car believed used in the Night Stalker's latest attack. Some fingerprints, not those of the vehicle's owner, were found, said Larry Ragle, lead forensic specialist for the Orange County coroner's office.

The 1976 orange Toyota station wagon was stolen in Chinatown last Saturday. Authorities said it was spotted Sunday at the scene of the Night Stalker's latest assault, an attack on a couple in Mission Viejo, according to authorities. It was found near downtown Los Angeles on Tuesday and staked out, then towed away by police Wednesday morning.